

19980827.qrp v01\_n196.qrs.980827

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 19:03:11 EDT  
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: QRP-L digest 1196

QRP-L Digest 1196

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [18511] GM Storm continues  
by Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
- 2) [18512] Re: HW-7  
by "John J. McDonough" <jjmcd@tm.net>
- 3) [18513] QRP troubles  
by "V.C. Angell" <angell@northernnet.com>
- 4) [18514] HW7 observations.  
by "E. Andrews" <earlve3ab@igs.net>
- 5) [18515] RE: 'nother crazy paddle idea  
by Tracy@bytemark.com (Tracy)
- 6) [18516] (Say What????) Re: VERSA-TENNA for NERDS Contest  
by Dave Willey <dave@cds1.net>
- 7) [18517] six meter aurora  
by marion@montana.com
- 8) [18518] Re: Infrared key  
by "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@worldnet.att.net>
- 9) [18519] Laser-pointer/key??  
by dave\_epps@juno.com
- 10) [18520] Solar-powered home stations? Y2K = QRP?  
by "L.Svec,W.Burdick" <svecbrdk@well.com>
- 11) [18521] Re: Solar-powered home stations? Y2K = QRP?  
by Paula Bailey <pmbail01@ox.slug.louisville.edu>
- 12) [18522] NA logging-contest software  
by Dick Schneider <rschneid@ix.netcom.com>
- 13) [18523] TAC Prize: Homebrew!  
by Ken Newman <n2cq@citnet.com>
- 14) [18524] Re: Solar-powered home stations? Y2K = QRP?  
by bob evinger <revinger@marshallonline.com>
- 15) [18525] Illegal USB Activity On QRP Freqs  
by "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
- 16) [18526] solar powered  
by marion@montana.com
- 17) [18527] mexican standoff  
by "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
- 18) [18528] Re: mexican standoff  
by "Alan H" <tentec@hotmail.com>
- 19) [18529] RE: QRP, Running Dogs, Pogo

- by aweiss@usd.edu (A. Weiss)
- 20) [18530] Re: Laser-pointer/key??  
by "Tim Hynde" <hynde@flash.net>
  - 21) [18531] Want NYE coupler: C-1.8-30-5C, low power coupler  
by Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ics.uci.edu>
  - 22) [18532] FS: FT757GxII, 9913 & stuff  
by Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>
  - 23) [18533] Group Buy: Elmer 200 Reference  
by Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>
  - 24) [18534] W1 = P00R and USELESS de AL7FS  
by "Jim Larsen (AL7FS)" <larsennnc@alaska.net>
  - 25) [18535] Re: QSL BUROS:WHAT IS WAIT??  
by wa8rxi@juno.com (Rick Arzadon)
  - 26) [18536] Re: SG-2020  
by wa8rxi@juno.com (Rick Arzadon)
  - 27) [18537] Fwd: Crystals  
by "Eim Mulder" <mulder@server4.nfra.nl>
  - 28) [18538] Emergency Power considerations  
by "Bill Todd" <bill@willapabay.org>
  - 29) [18539] RE: Crazy paddle idea, not so crazy!  
by cy r currier <crc3@telplus.net>
  - 30) [18540] Winding Coils and ARRL CD and Latenight QRP  
by Jim Fielden <fielden@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
  - 31) [18541] Using big rigs on qrp  
by "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodel@ameritech.net>
  - 32) [18542] Re: TAC Contest Prize  
by Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
  - 33) [18543] band doctor  
by Art Marshall <artm@t-com.com>
  - 34) [18544] Re: Using big rigs on qrp  
by bob evinger <revinger@marshallonline.com>
  - 35) [18545] Key and paddle alternative designs  
by applitech@mcg.net (Claton Cadmus)
  - 36) [18546] Re: Screwdriver antenna plans?  
by Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>
  - 37) [18547] Straight key or ???  
by "Wes Jenson" <n0ihm@info.starpoint.net>
  - 38) [18548] Batteries/Gel cells  
by Mercxx@aol.com
  - 39) [18549] FS: W7EL 2w 40m QRP xcvr  
by afpgreg@state.me.us (Paul V. Gregory)
  - 40) [18550] Strange lights in der sky!  
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
  - 41) [18551] Re: Straight key or ???  
by "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
  - 42) [18552] Re: band doctor  
by Tom Cooper <cooper@gmpvt.com>
  - 43) [18553] Re: How Do "U" Call It QRP (Short Man\'s Complex?)

- by Zack Lau <zlau@arrl.org>
- 44) [18554] MFJ-9040 opinions  
by "Bridges, Scott, HMR/US" <Scott.Bridges@hmrag.com>
- 45) [18555] Re: QRP, running dogs, Pogo  
by "Karl Kanalz - Dallas" <kkanalz@optelinc.com>
- 46) [18556] (no subject)  
by DYARNES@aol.com
- 47) [18557] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
by Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
- 48) [18558] QRP++ Sold Another one still available  
by Bill Schiller <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>
- 49) [18559] RE: Group Buy: Elmer 200 Reference  
by Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
- 50) [18560] RE: QRP troubles  
by "Hulbert, Nick" <nick.hulbert@lmco.com>
- 51) [18561] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
by Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>
- 52) [18562] Re: solar powered  
by marion@montana.com
- 53) [18563] FS: NorCal 40A w/KC-1 (kits)  
by Roger Hightower <n7kt@earthlink.net>
- 54) [18564] RE: Strange lights in der sky!  
by "Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>
- 55) [18565] Copper head paddle  
by "Steve MILLer" <kg7pv@teleport.com>
- 56) [18566] Re: How Do "U" Call It QRP (Short Man\'s Complex?)  
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- 57) [18567] Ceramic Tuning Tools  
by "Gene Hall" <evhall@ix.netcom.com>
- 58) [18568] RE: Crazy paddle idea, not so crazy!  
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 59) [18569] W/R antennas ARE FALLING  
by jdenison@morelr.com (JOEL DENISON)
- 60) [18570] RE: SGC-2020 CALL the FTC!!  
by jcs4us@cosmoaccess.net
- 61) [18571] Re: Laser-pointer/key??  
by "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
- 62) [18572] RE: QRP, Power/Beam Ant. argument.  
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
- 63) [18573] Re: SGC-2020 CALL the FTC!!  
by n4js@pobox.com (John Sielke)
- 64) [18574] QSL WAITING TIME - TNX!  
by kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
- 65) [18575] Re: Using big rigs on qrp  
by "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>
- 66) [18576] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
by n4js@pobox.com (John Sielke)
- 67) [18577] re:How Do You Call it QRP

by k5zty@juno.com  
68) [18578] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
by marion@montana.com  
69) [18579] SG2020 mods under warranty  
by Bill Schiller <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
70) [18580] nu6SN at Boxboro  
by Richard Fisher <nu6sn@yahoo.com>  
71) [18581] Correction to additional QRP++ FS  
by Bill Schiller <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
72) [18582] PV (solar panel) source  
by The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>  
73) [18583] Lost in the 'woulds'  
by "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>  
74) [18584] Band-pass filters...revisited.  
by n5inz@juno.com (John M Andrews)  
75) [18585] FS: Sony ICF-2010 receiver (Price Reduced)  
by The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>  
76) [18586] 9M0C QSL, Anyone?  
by Larry East <w1hue@amsat.org>  
77) [18587] Re: SG2020 mods under warranty  
by "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>  
78) [18588] Sales: COL is SOP; beware Collinsizing  
by MNHopkins@aol.com  
79) [18589] Re: Using big rigs on qrp  
by Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>  
80) [18590] RE: Lost in the 'woulds'  
by "Hulbert, Nick" <nick.hulbert@lmco.com>  
81) [18591] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
by "Greg Breeden" <al0a@hotmail.com>  
82) [18592] QRP++ For sale?  
by Larry East <w1hue@amsat.org>  
83) [18593] Gel Cells\Batteries  
by n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)  
84) [18594] laser-pointer/key TKS  
by dave\_epps@juno.com  
85) [18595] Bubbbba Sprint Rules/Heat Index  
by n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)  
86) [18596] re:How Do You Call it QRP  
by "Tim Hynde" <hynde@flash.net>  
87) [18597] Re: QRP troubles  
by w4bws@juno.com (Donald E Sanders)  
88) [18598] Key alternatives  
by dave\_epps@juno.com  
89) [18599] Re: 9M0C QSL, Anyone?  
by "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>  
90) [18600] laser-pointer/key  
by dave\_epps@juno.com  
91) [18601] QRPd to unseat Cabal of '80?

- by MNHopkins@aol.com
- 92) [18602] Re: QRP, Running Dogs, Pogo  
by nilsbull@juno.com (Nils R Young)
  - 93) [18603] Y2K & qrp & millenium fever  
by jaywa5whn@juno.com
  - 94) [18604] W/R ant falling update  
by jdenison@morelr.com (JOEL DENISON)
  - 95) [18605] Re: QRPd to unseat Cabal of '80?  
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
  - 96) [18606] Alternate alternates...  
by fcsw@juno.com (dick rood)
  - 97) [18607] QST Search Program  
by n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)
  - 98) [18608] Re: QST Search Program  
by Allan Taylor K7GT <k7gt@qsl.net>

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Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 17:39:23 -0600 (MDT)  
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>  
To: GQRP-L List <ggrp-l@blacksheep.org>  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18511] GM Storm continues  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.980826165554.18716A-100000@zia>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

SUMMARY (for those not wishing to read the whole thing):

The anticipated shockwave from the sun arrived, initiating a MINOR geomagnetic storm. As the Earth rotates from nighttime into daytime tomorrow, that is, back into the solar wind, local conditions will likely elevate into a MAJOR geomagnetic storm.

NOTE: I offer these explanations, not neccessarily to predict what band conditions will be, but to explain the physics of the various solar disturbances, how to read and interpret the solar bulletins issued, and just as an appreciation for how complicated and uncertain this "science" of solar and geomagnetic storms are. Much is yet unknown, and very little of it is available in print outside of the scientific journals. Due to the difficulty of finding simple explanations, I try to offer some of it here, time permitting.

Thanks to all who have emailed me over time regarding these posts expressing how much they are enjoyed and how informative they are. It is great encouragement to know they are appreciated, even when I do make errors or my explanations are less than clear.

72, Paul NA5N  
National Radio Astronomy Observatory  
Socorro, New Mexico

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> JOINT USAF/NOAA REPORT OF SOLAR AND GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY  
> SDF NUMBER 238 ISSUED AT 2200Z ON 26 AUG 1998

> IA. ANALYSIS OF SOLAR ACTIVE REGIONS AND ACTIVITY FROM 25/2100Z  
> TO 26/2100Z: .SOLAR ACTIVITY HAS BEEN VERY LOW.  
> X-RAY LEVELS ARE LOW ...

X-rays are produced by energetic events. Sometimes these energetic events occur without any visible evidence. Low X-ray levels means there are no energetic events occurring, visible or otherwise.

> ACTIVE REGION 8307 (N31 W15) ... IS CLASSED AS A DKO REGION WITH A  
> BASIC BETA STRUCTURE AND A REMAINING HINT OF MAGNETIC COMPLEXITY.

BETA structure means magnetic field lines are leaving one sun spot and re-entering another (that is, a N and S pole field above the surface). A DKO region means:

- D - Bipolar field, penumbra visible around the spots of both polarities
- K - The penumbra is asymmetric with a diameter > 2.5 degrees
- O - The area between the spots where the magnetic field lines run is "open" or empty. That is, there are no sun spots in between

Penumbra is a darkened area that surrounds some sun spots, and usually associated when that spot develops its own magnetic field. A region of sunspots with strong and complex bipolar fields are those areas capable of producing flares. So this just all means that this region, if it strengthens, may produce more large flares, but it has diminished greatly since yesterday.

> IB. SOLAR ACTIVITY FORECAST: SOLAR ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO BE LOW  
> TO MODERATE. REGION 8307 APPEARS LIKELY TO PRODUCE SPORADIC EVENTS.

8307 is the region discussed above and the one producing yesterdays X-class flare.

> IT APPEARS TO RETAIN THE POTENTIAL TO PRODUCE CLASS M FLARES EVERY  
> 2-3 DAYS AND ANOTHER CLASS X OR TWO BEFORE IT REACHES THE WEST LIMB  
> OF THE SUN.

Then it will rotate past the west limb across the back side of the sun, to re-emerge in two more weeks.

- > THE EMERGENCE OF NEW ARCH-FILAMENT SYSTEMS IN THE
- > SCATTERED PLAGE COVERING NEARLY 50 DEGREES IN LONGITUDE FROM 8307
- > INDICES THIS AREA MAY BE A SOURCE OF NEW SIGNIFICANT ACTIVE REGIONS
- > IN FUTURE WEEKS.

- > IIA. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM 25/2100Z TO 26/2100Z:
- > THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD HAS BEEN AT ACTIVE TO MINOR STORM CONDITIONS.
- > A SUDDEN IMPULSE WAS OBSERVED AT 26/0651 UT. AFTER THE IMPULSE,
- > MID-LATITUDE K-INDICES UP TO 5 WERE OBSERVED. ENERGETIC PARTICLE
- > FLUXES INCREASED IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SUDDEN IMPULSE

This was the sudden impulse predicted to arrive in yesterdays forecast from the flare on sunday. Yesterdays X-class flare will arrive late thursday or friday ... IF it's trajectory is Earthward bound. (We don't know yet).

- > THE SOLAR WIND DATA FROM THE ADVANCED COMPOSITION
- > EXPLORER (ACE) INDICATED A PROBABLE SHOCK PASSED THE SATELLITE
- > SHORTLY BEFORE THE SUDDEN IMPULSE AT EARTH.

Unfortunately, the ACE satellite is fairly close to Earth, and arriving shock waves are "muffled" a bit by our own magnetic field. But without SOHO, you use what you have!

- > SINCE THAT TIME, THE SOLAR WIND VELOCITY FROM ACE HAS INCREASED TO
- > 900 KM/S, THE DENSITY HAS REMAINED LOWER THAN PREVIOUSLY, AND THE
- > INTERPLANETARY MAGNETIC FIELD DOES NOT HAVE A CLEAR PATTERN ...

Normal solar wind is 200-400 km/s ... so 900 km/sec is a marked increase in the solar wind. A shock wave of particles from a solar disturbance is USUALLY characterized by a sudden increase in the particle density, and a distinct shift in the phase of the magnetic field of the solar wind riding along the ecliptic axis. So what this is saying is the density and magnetic fields do not have the typical "fingerprint" of an arriving shock wave from the sun, but the sudden increase of the solar wind to 900 km/s sure does! As that shock wave smacked into our geomagnetic field, it disturbed it to cause a geomagnetic storm. And with the A-index being high, means it is still "wiggling" (producing electrical currents and noise).

- > IIB. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY FORECAST: THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD IS
- > EXPECTED TO BE AT ACTIVE TO MAJOR STORM CONDITIONS. THE PRESENT
- > DISTURBANCE IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE INTO TONIGHT AND BECOME MORE
- > INTENSE AS CONDITIONS CHANGE IN THE SOLAR WIND AND LOCAL NIGHT-TIME
- > EFFECTS WORK TOGETHER TO ENHANCE K-INDICES.

The intensity of the geomagnetic storm will vary, depending on whether your QTH is in sunlight (facing the solar wind) or night time (shielded

from the solar wind). As your side of the earth slithers into darkness, it is also slithering out of the solar wind.

> VALUES AS HIGH AS 7 ARE  
> PROBABLE WITH A CHANCE OF HIGHER VALUES AS WELL.

I.e., MAJOR geomagnetic storming effects

> IV. PENTICTON 10.7 CM FLUX  
> OBSERVED 26 AUG 127

Hey, at least the solar flux is on the upswing from all of this.

> V. GEOMAGNETIC A INDICES  
> OBSERVED AFR/AP 25 AUG 008/011  
> ESTIMATED AFR/AP 26 AUG 026/032 <--- MINOR storm levels

> PREDICTED AFR/AP 27 AUG-29 AUG 060/065-025/030-010/015

^^^^^^

MAJOR STORM LEVELS

Predicted for tomorrow (thursday)

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Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 20:22:41 -0400  
From: "John J. McDonough" <jjmcd@tm.net>  
To: <DNT1@chrysler.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18512] Re: HW-7  
Message-ID: <199808262356.6028600@is1.tm.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> From: DNT1@chrysler.com; owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
>  
> Is this rig  
> worth messing with for a first QRP rig?

My HW-7 experience is a lot like Alaska Jim's TenTec experience. I built one of those rascals in '73. Dusted it off this winter, power was way down on it, it's real prone to broadcast interference. But there was still a lot of fun left in that old rig. After I finally broke down and bought a 'good' rig I thought I would sell it ... but how could I? It's a great little rig.



This radio will run for weeks off of a pair of 6 volt lantern batteries - might be pretty darned handy if you happen to be in South Carolina about now.

Sure it's got a lot of warts, but for a first QRP rig, I think it has a lot over most of the more popular 'affordable' radios. The thing covers all the bands you care about (well, OK, 30 would be nice). You got 40 for winter nights when the sun is quiet, 15 for active sun times, and 20 for all the other times. Now what more could you ask?

What's it worth? Well, at your typical hamfest you might unload it for \$50. If it's in good shape and you find the right collector, three times that. A big part of that worth is the manual. Those things are scarce.

72/73 de WB8RCR  
didileydadidah

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 19:17:41 -0500  
From: "V.C. Angell" <angell@northernnet.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18513] QRP troubles  
Message-ID: <103120606b20a55b1ab38@[205.198.127.156]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

You know the trouble with QRP? I keep losing the rigs -- they are too small. They look like a have dozen other old circuit boards around here.

72,  
"VC" KCOEM

V.C. Angell  
<http://www.jewelry-magick.com>  
Jewelry with a secret

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 98 19:42:09 PDT  
From: "E. Andrews" <earlve3ab@igs.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18514] HW7 observations.

Message-ID: <MAPI.Id.0016.0061726c766533613030303930303039@MAPI.to.RFC822>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="ISO-8859-1"; X-MAPIextension=".TXT"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I bought an HW7 for \$35 and it doesnt work on RCV. That doesnt bother me though because there are only 2 active devices. a dual gate mosfet followed by an IC on the rcvr side. The rcvr is the weak point on the HW7. I could not have a good QRP to QRP Qso because I would loose the other guy with the QSB and the sensitivity was just not there. Also you had the problem of having to zero beat the guy you were working..the hw7 had no RIT or provisions so you had to play arnd a bit with the dial..but it was a GREAT EFFORT by Heath to get the ball rolling with a QRP transciever. There were articles in QST by Doug Demaw..(i think) in the seventies to make the rcvr bttr..it would still be a direct conversion but without some of the shortcomings.....MY MODS...WHEN I GET TIME TO DO THEM...will be to leave the rig unmodified but bypass the existing rcvr circuitry entirely and put in additional boards..without drilling holes in the nice little cabinet...and have a good direct conversion rcvr...the transmitter side is good and I got good reports on the quality of the signal..Ive even thought of putting in the direct conversion rcvr by KK7B the R2 but...alas ..life for me is too short and I probably wont have the time to do that...One other smaller point about the rcvr is the very touchy receiver preselector adjustment....I think the demaw article went a long way to solving that inconvenience....73 all Earl VE3AB

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Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 21:21:48 -0400  
From: Tracy@bytemark.com (Tracy)  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
Subject: [18515] RE: 'nother crazy paddle idea  
Message-ID: <000601bdd159\$0fd73ae0\$6a751ad1@titan>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

What about using the keys out of defunkt midi keyboards? they are usually strike sensitive -- two back to back adjusted to touch might do the trick??

Tracy N4LGH

> How about a strain gauge paddle?

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 19:49:59 -0700  
From: Dave Willey <dave@cds1.net>  
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Cc: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com  
Subject: [18516] (Say What????) Re: VERSA-TENNA for NERDS Contest  
Message-ID: <35E4C957.6FFC@cds1.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

(Stuff deleted so the Quoting Police won't get upset)

>.....NO CUTTING OR SOLDERING NEEDED.This is so slick it really should >be called SLICK WILLEY. (More stuff deleted)

>Alan KB7MBI

Er, don't you mean Willy? (Or Willie)

Or do I get a royalty from each one made? (GRIN)

--

Dave (Semi-Slick) Willey

E-mail: dave@cds1.net

Amateur E-mail: kd6kwm@cds1.net

Amateur Packet: KD6KWM@KD6KWM.#NCA.CA.USA.NOAM

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QRP-L #1567

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Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 21:41:07 -0600 (MDT)  
From: marion@montana.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18517] six meter aurora

Message-ID: <199808270341.VAA08605@paw.montana.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Presently working six meter aurora with ssb and cw. Roy AB7CE

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 22:07:15 -0500  
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@worldnet.att.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18518] Re: Infrared key  
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19980826215238.00c93134@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Gang,

One of the best and easiest to build "touch" designs I've seen for an iambic key was the Copperhead Keyer Paddle by Charles Rakes KI5AZ in the May 91 issue of 73 magazine. What is unique about this design and what makes it a "sweat proof" capacitance touch circuit is that it uses three pieces of copper clad pc board for the key. Each paddle is a piece of copper clad pc board and the slanted base which elevates the paddles is a larger piece of pc board. Since the side of your palm rests on the base, which by the way is at circuit ground, it provides a good path to the "positive" charged paddles (please dis-regard my heavy duty electronic theory here - hi). This wood and copper clad pc board design, along with some electronics and 4003 quad NAND Schmidtt triggers which nestle in a carved out area of the wooden base has been a super keyer for me.

This design differs quite a bit from the Ramsey approach which uses paddles with a serpentine like pc pattern of positive and ground traces. That design is much more effected by finger moisture. This is one of the reasons why I like the Copperhead since your sweaty palm (from working those QRP DX stations) rests on the base of the key.

Anyway just another design for those folks who have more of an "electronic" bend and hate anything that is mechanical - hi.

Cheers 73/72 Bob N0EB

PS: One other advanatage of this paddle during those frantic DX contacts when the QSB is in full force is that since the wieght of your palm is on the base of the key the key tends not to move around even if you try "slapping" these non-moving paddles with your fingers.

-----  
Bob Gobrick - Stillwater, MN  
Internet: rgobrick@att.net  
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-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 17:38:02 -0700  
From: dave\_epps@juno.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18519] Laser-pointer/key??  
Message-ID: <19980826.174036.12198.2.dave\_epps@juno.com>

Will a laser pointer turn on and off fast enough to send code at any reasonable speed? Years ago, in the Navy, we keyed the yardarm blinkers with a hand-key, but with a bug they just flickered.  
dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

-----  
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Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 20:14:48 -0700  
From: "L.Svec,W.Burdick" <svecbrdk@well.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18520] Solar-powered home stations? Y2K = QRP?  
Message-ID: <v03102801b20a67fd7258@[206.169.229.160]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I'm getting ready to do a home solar power installation--just enough to power my laptop computer, QRP rigs, some 12V lights, 12V soldering iron, etc. Later I may add an inverter and more batteries. My XYL and I think of this as prudent preparation in the land o' quakes. If it all goes well (or not), I'll write about the experience for QRP-L/QRPP.

This exercise got me wondering: If for some reason we all lost power for an extended period, how many of us would still be on the air? Would there be enough of us to handle even bare-bones traffic for our communities? Some repeaters are solar powered, but in a country-wide extended power outage, I suspect only a small number of hams would be

prepared to step in to provide long-distance or even short-range communications.

This issue seems like a natural one for the QRP gang to get involved in. (Forgive me if this topic has been covered well enough already!) After all, we can put thousands of our low-current-drain stations on the air in no time, using car batteries, gel cells, even peddle-power. We do it several times a year just for fun, and don't get paid for it. As a group, we're really good at trading a few dB in signal strength for a huge increase in battery life.

But what if we were talking about weeks or months without mains? This seems far-fetched, but it's possible. What our stations would need in this case is a consistent source of hydro, solar, wind, or some other long-term power source.

In addition to their use during emergencies, alternative-power home stations could be an interesting addition to the usual QRP contest categories. There's also some satisfaction to be gained in using renewable sources--e.g. solar and wind--for our everyday radio work.

There are many hams who have pioneered in this area, including Harvey, K6DS (from my home town of San Diego--runs a solar-powered KW!) and Rob Capon, W3DX (formerly WA3ULH), who has written extensively about solar station setup. But what I don't have a feel for is just how many stations are so equipped.

I'd be interested to find the answer to this question, and to see if there are others on the list who would like to promote the cause.

One last bit of trivia: When I called Jade Energy to find out what PV panel, battery, and regulator to use, they mentioned that their sales have suddenly gone off the charts. Apparently they're back-ordered on many PV systems, especially the large ones.

"Why?" I asked.

I got a three-letter reply: "Y2K."

A lot of people are preparing for the worst, it seems. Probably a few hams among them. (And you thought I was kidding when I posted a message last year about ham radio replacing the phone company in January, 2000 ;)

72,  
Wayne  
N6KR

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 23:42:55 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Paula Bailey <pmbail01@ox.slug.louisville.edu>  
To: "L.Svec,W.Burdick" <svecbrdk@well.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18521] Re: Solar-powered home stations? Y2K = QRP?  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.96.980826232645.11818A-1000000@ox.slug.louisville.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

(re solar powered QRP)

Actually, to be honest, I've been pondering just how difficult it *\*would\** be to set up solar power for a QRP rig (and *\*not\** just because of Y2K, either :). Anymore, I would think, it's starting to be more feasible than, say, five years ago:

- 1) You finally have solar power arrays that will work even in areas like the Ohio Valley (overcast a lot of the time, flat out storming a lot in spring, etc.).
- 2) There are, especially in the RV community, an increasing number of solar power applications. (To whit, I've seen solar powered battery chargers--meant for deep charging the marine 12v batteries a lot of RV's use for secondary power so one isn't running the generator all the time and burning up all the gas :)
- 3) Most QRP rigs that I've seen are at 12v, low amps to milliamps (or less, voltswise); considering it takes several amps to deep-charge a marine battery, you could conceivably rig up something to run the QRP rig and charge a backup battery simultaneously.

I, for one, would be rather interested in seeing how it goes; if it goes well and can be done a bit at a time, I'd like to see if I couldn't get something like that going for the next time I head to Bristol, TN. :)

Two minor questions relating to that, actually (both portable rigs and Bristol, at that):

- 1) Yes, I did hear the special event station in Bristol (on 2m--when most folks are trying to hear the race crews when they aren't racing, I'm trying to hear the NASCAR 50th anniversary special event station :)

Do hams (or special event stations in particular) as a rule accept a QSL from someone who was *\*listening\** (as opposed to making contact)? (If they will take a QSL from someone who does not yet have their ham

ticket but is working very hard to get it :), I'd like to see if I can try to get one of the special event QSL's back. Ah well...)

- 2) Again, offhand--does anyone know of any QRP 2m kits besides the R2/T2 kit or the TechAmerica/Vectronics kit (if I'd get either of them, I'd get the R2/T2, because one gets more for the money with that)? I ask, because by Grud I am going to get \*some\* form of ham ticket at the Louisville hamfest :) and would like to be prepared to have some form of kit-building I can work on should I not pass the Morse exam. (I \*will\* get Tech if it kills me, Tech+ or General if I can get it. :)

(Yes, I was originally planning to get the license in October, but found out happily that they will be doing the VEC exams at the hamfest. Since I intend on going anyways, I figured I'd take the plunge. :)

-pb

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 21:40:12 -0600  
From: Dick Schneider <rschneid@ix.netcom.com>  
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18522] NA logging-contest software  
Message-ID: <35E4D51C.22BC9EB3@ix.netcom.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Anyone know where to find NA logging-contest software for a looksee?

tnx

72 Dick AB0CD..

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 23:47:46 -0400  
From: Ken Newman <n2cq@citnet.com>  
To: epaqrp-l@Lehigh.EDU, njqrp@njqrp.org  
Cc: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18523] TAC Prize: Homebrew!  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19980827034512.3dc7cc20@mail.citnet.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0



Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

WOW! I'm getting embarrassed for thes TAC Sprint Awards that have come my way!  
I like it though!

This time it is for the Homebrew Category for the TAC and I would like to thank the EPA QRP Club who provided an ARCI Mug and Mouse Pad for the award. These are very nice awards and will be in use at the shack from now on. Thanks again.

It is a bit ambarressing to receive the Rainbow Bridge/Tuner from the NJQRP Club for the Tactical (Portable) category, the Overall 3rd Place Plaque and handsome certificates from CPA QRP Club and Cam, KT3A, and now the beautiful ARCI mug and mouse pad from the EPA QRP club.

It never gets better than this!

72/73,  
Ken Newman, N2CQ  
Woodbury, NJ  
N2CQ@Citnet.com

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 22:47:12 -0500 (EST)  
From: bob evinger <revinger@marshallonline.com>  
To: "L.Svec,W.Burdick" <svecbrdk@well.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18524] Re: Solar-powered home stations? Y2K = QRP?  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.96.980826223851.706A-1000000@WD9EKA.ampr.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I am one of the mostly silent solar/wind hams. In the last 12 months I had to charge my batteries commercially once in january. Due in part maybe to El Nino if you listen to the media. We had an above normal temp winter and January was almost cloudy everyday with no wind.

I have provisions for running portions of the house off the battery bank as well but use it mostly for the radio room. You might try [www.realgoods.com](http://www.realgoods.com) as another source if you havent heard of them. They are not always the cheapest but they do have a decent selection if you dont mind listening/reading some of the junk they also sell.

I have plans on expanding my system but it is not because of Y2K. I go at it as another hobby. I am not necessarily saving money, but it

is educational and its nice when a storm rolls through that I can keep the lights and the TV going for the little ones.

If you or anyone else is interested I can try and answer, either to the group or privately.

bob

Bob Evinger | 19250 N. Livingston Road | revinger@marshallonline.com  
WD9EKA | Marshall, IL 62441 |

-----  
Date: Tue, 25 Aug 1998 22:47:18 -0500  
From: "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>  
To: QRP-L Distribute <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18525] Illegal USB Activity On QRP Freqs  
Message-ID: <35E38546.66BE8C0B@swbell.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I received illegal USB activity on 14.0611 MHz tonight at about 0330-0340 UTC from what sounds like a foreign fisherman and his wife back home. Let's stir up some activity and let'em know they picked the wrong frequency. There signals are very strong here.

--  
Steve Yates  
AA5TB  
aa5tb@swbell.net  
<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb/>  
Fort Worth, Texas

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 22:52:33 -0600 (MDT)  
From: marion@montana.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18526] solar powered  
Message-ID: <199808270452.WAA10110@paw.montana.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I've been completely solar powered for two years. All radio

operation at home and Field day, QRPTTF, etc. Nice clean power source and a nice contest multiplier as well. Roy AB7CE

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 00:29:21 -0400  
From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>  
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18527] mexican standoff  
Message-ID: <199808270435.AAA15375@gold.muskoka.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All. What is accepted common practice in the world of oldfashioned good and decent low power hamsters?  
Agreed on price to buy used rig. Seller is across the continent. Seller wants full price paid by money order before shipping. What am i missing here? What happened to shared risk? reasonable risk, caveat emptor? I offered 25% in advance, balance on receipt. Thats what we did the last time I bought a used HF rig over the phone from a private seller, sight unseen. Why trust a person who does not trust me? I do not need the cheap thrill of buying 'blind' by sending a money order for a thousand dollars to a stranger. What do YOU do when you buy or sell this way?  
Armin Hachmer VE3TEQ

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 21:51:55 PDT  
From: "Alan H" <tentec@hotmail.com>  
To: armin@muskoka.com  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18528] Re: mexican standoff  
Message-ID: <19980827045155.8758.qmail@hotmail.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain

Hello All, Offer to send him payment that covers the shipping cost and the COD fee's.. Have him then once he receives your payment send it COD for the purchase price, this way he is covered so if you were to refuse shipment he would get it back and out only time.. Also make your payment with a Postal Money Order that way if he flakes out the deal and just keeps the money you will have the Government looking at the deal because they don't like fraud...Al

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Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 23:53:50 -0500 (CDT)  
From: aweiss@usd.edu (A. Weiss)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18529] RE: QRP, Running Dogs, Pogo  
Message-ID: <199808270453.XAA16625@sunburst.usd.edu>

The point is that QRP is about limiting the amount of power that one feeds to the antenna. Knowledge and skill then take over. Both are directed at the primary objective -- putting out the best signal possible, given the power limitation, and making it work. KNOWLEDGE 101, first point on first day of class = spherical dissemination loss can be overcome partially by focusing the radiation from the antenna in a selected direction/angle etc. Only a dummy goes shopping for an isotropic radiator because it does not provide any kind of focusing gain. Maybe that is why the market for isotropic dipoles has always been kind of weak.

Of course, I can understand why a KW with a 4-el yagi at 100-ft wants to put down a QRP'r using the old ERP argument. He can't demolish the QRP'r on the small power basis, so he picks something that is big and seems to contradict the small bit.

Insecurity of the KW'r.

73, Ade W0RSP

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 00:57:28 -0400  
From: "Tim Hynde" <hynde@flash.net>  
To: <dave\_epps@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18530] Re: Laser-pointer/key??  
Message-ID: <199808270457.XAA00995@endeavor.flash.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Good heavens yes, my friend and I did that years ago, when a laser was selling in the hundreds of dollars, after fooling around with CW we tried RTTY, mark was laser, space was no laser. It worked flawlessly, no QRM's or high powered ops at 900nm : ) We used a plain vanilla photo diode although I'm sure there is a detector available that is specific to laser

freqs.

Tim, ka8ddz

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 21:43:57 -0700  
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ics.uci.edu>  
To: rec.radio.swap@safety.ics.uci.edu  
Cc: kenwood@qth.net, tentec@contesting.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18531] Want NYE coupler: C-1.8-30-5C, low power coupler  
Message-ID: <9808262144.aa27218@paris.ics.uci.edu>

I am looking for a NYE coupler for the RFM series rf monitor.  
I have the RFM-003. Since I do not run over 100 watts, and  
mostly run under 10 watts, the low power coupler would enable  
me to make this (very neat) meter work in my shack. Anyone  
have one of these or know where one is available?

Clark  
WA3JPG

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 23:17:28 -0600  
From: Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18532] FS: FT757GxII, 9913 & stuff  
Message-ID: <v04003a02b20a978a9618@[12.7.216.155]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Doing a little cleaning, organizing, and making room (& \$\$) for a K2 :-)  
I have the following for sale (OBO):

Yaesu FT-757GxII, w/ FP757 supply, very good condition	\$625
AEA PK232MBX Multi Mode TNC	\$150
RG-9913 100' w/ N connectors installed	\$35 (3 avail...)
RG-400 100' w/ N-BNC installed	\$25 (2 avail...)
Pacom TNC's	\$40 ea (2 avail...)
ARNAV R50i aircraft Loran	
King Loran (Marine/Aircraft)	

Pls rply direct  
tnx es 72

Niel

-----  
Niel Skousen : WA7SSA skousen@srv.net  
Idaho Falls, ID QRP-L.119 fr DN33wm

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 22:56:35 -0600  
From: Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18533] Group Buy: Elmer 200 Reference  
Message-ID: <v04003a01b20a95c92caa@[12.7.216.155]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi All... For a number of years I've had a very good oscillator reference, a paper back compilation done by RF Design magazine. This is not a post grad level text, but is focused at a technical audience.

SO... I guess I'm volunteering to do a group buy if enough people are interested. There are several volumes in the collection, and the publisher as agreed to let us do a group buy, and has agreed to allow mix-n-match as well.

Please send me private e.mail if your interested in getting one or several of the following handbooks. I'll wait two weeks to see how many are interested and what volume (and price) we can get.

In two weeks I'll post a summary and confirm pricing, shipping cost, etc. (Then you can send money \*8-)

72  
Niel

===

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10-49	\$16.50 ea
50-100	\$14.00 ea

100+      \$12.00 ea

We can mix & match for quantity volume, Summary extracts are included below. Shipping will be about \$1/vol. (from Idaho :-)

R-1 Oscillator Design Handbook

"...oscillator theory, design, and applications. Along with traditional designs, this book includes some unique approaches not found anywhere else"

R-2 Filter Handbook Vol. 1 - Applications

"The best practical filter circuits from RF Design... Essential information on active, passive, lumped element, microstrip, helical and SAW filters..."

R-3 Filter Handbook Vol 2 - Design

"..book offers fundamental and advanced material on Butterworth, chebyshev and elliptic filters plus notes on their implementation... Another highlight is a tutorial on SAW filter basics."

R-4 RFI/EMC/EMI: A Designers Handbook

"The best design-for-compliance articles from RF Design and EMC Test & Design...Circuit board design, Part 15 techniques, ESD protection, filtering, bypassing and troubleshooting... Notes on regulations and test methods..."

R-5 Power Amplifier Handbook

"..loaded with practical circuits for power amplifiers operating from HF through L-band, from a few watts to kilowatts, with clear explanations... Articles on couplers, combiners biasing techniques, and VSWR protection..."

R-6 Frequency Synthesis Handbook

"Phase locked loops and direct digital synthesis are the main focus, with articles ranging from Andy Przepelski's 'PLL Primer' series to advanced analytical techniques. Theoretical material is complemented by practical circuits and applications..."

R-7 Wireless Communications Handbook

"..Topics include spread spectrum systems, Part 15, digital modulation, demodulation, transmission, reception and signal propagation. A special feature is our tutorial series on Complex modulation"

R-8 Test & Measurement Handbook

".. general RF test information, specific test procedures, and circuits for test applications. Universal test topics like spectrum and network analysis, phase noise measurement and IMD testing are complemented with specific notes on A/D converters, comparators, crystals and more. A collection of test circuits includes isolators, detectors, frequency standards and calibrators."

R-9 Low Noise Design Handbook

"...Design principles include noise, gain and matching fundamentals, along with advanced topics like broadband matching, component modeling and feedback.. examples for front-end, IF, instrumentation and medical applications.."

-----  
Niel Skousen : WA7SSA skousen@srv.net  
Idaho Falls, ID QRP-L.119 fr DN33wm

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Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 22:38:22 -0800  
From: "Jim Larsen (AL7FS)" <larsennnc@alaska.net>  
To: "qrp-l@lehigh.edu" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18534] W1 = POOR and USELESS de AL7FS  
Message-ID: <35E4FEDE.8ED6F618@alaska.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi folks!!

Well....here's what it says tonight:

SUBJ: HF RADIO PROPAGATION REPORT

JOINT USAF/NOAA BULLETIN PREPARED BY 55SWXS, SCHRIEVER AFB, CO.

SECONDARY HF RADIO PROPAGATION REPORT ISSUED AT 26/2157Z AUG 98.

PART I. SUMMARY 26/1800Z TO 26/2400Z AUG 98.

FORECAST 26/0000Z TO 26/0600Z AUG 98.

		QUADRANT			
		I	II	III	IV
		0 TO 90W	90W TO 180	180 TO 90E	90E TO 0
REGION	POLAR	W1	W1	W1	W1
	AURORAL	W1	W1	W1	W1

>From Steve Sacco's post on how to read this:  
using the following terms:

W = Poor,

U = Fair,

N = Normal.

using the following terms:

1 = Useless

2 = Very Poor



I am here to tell you that when it says POOR AND USELESS for us up here in the auroral areas, it is truly, truly POOR AND USELESS!!!!

Not one single signal on 20 meters. Not One!! This was earlier in the evening at about the same time I had the ragchew on 20 meters yesterday with the Century 22.

I have my fingers and toes and eyes cross for Sunday. I am currently planning on running from just outside the shack of KL7Y about 35-40 miles north of here (one hour drive). If the bands are W1, I may cancel.

Wish me luck. I can see your propagation down south looks horrible, also.

73, Jim, AL7FS  
Anchorage, Alaska

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 20:47:48 EDT  
From: wa8rxixi@juno.com (Rick Arzadon)  
To: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18535] Re: QSL BUROS:WHAT IS WAIT??  
Message-ID: <19980827.004816.4775.0.WA8RXI@juno.com>

Dave,  
I got into some serious DXing in 1989 and have, since 1996, eased off a bit.  
Anyway, I have sent cards through the Bureau and gotten replies back taking upwards of 4 or 5 years.  
Right now I am awaiting cards that I sent for, VIA the BUREAU, back in 1996 & 1997.  
I found that my return increased immensely when I started using S.A.S.E.'s  
But, that got very expensive very quickly!

72, Rick Arzadon - WA8RXI Taylor, MI.

On Wed, 26 Aug 1998 10:54:52 -0500 kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg) writes:

> I know some of you have said this process is slow, but is  
> 1-2+ years normal? Am I just being impatient?

> Any comments would be helpful. Thanks, gang!  
>  
> 73 de Dave, NR3E  
> QRP-L #25  
> nr Dallas, TX

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Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

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Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 20:47:48 EDT  
From: wa8rxi@juno.com (Rick Arzadon)  
To: n4xy@att.net  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18536] Re: SG-2020  
Message-ID: <19980827.004816.4775.2.WA8RXI@juno.com>

Ed,  
You say that you have to get an upgrade or buy an extended warranty?  
Already?  
Amazing! Fight for your rights!!  
What you have just agreed to is poor business practice with any company.  
Bottom line is that anyone following your agreement with them will be  
treated with the same DISrespect.

72, Rick Arzadon - WA8RXI Taylor, MI.

---

On Wed, 26 Aug 1998 18:11:57 -0400 Ed Tanton <n4xy@att.net> writes:  
>But Ed, for those of us who ALREADY HAVE a '2020 what choice is there?  
>You can do two-well... three if you want to count 'doing nothing' -...  
two  
>things: 1) You can upgrade the rig to no-chirp, plus whatever other  
>small things were mentioned; or, 2) You can sell it.

---

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Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

---

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:51:47 +0200  
From: "Eim Mulder" <mulder@server4.nfra.nl>  
To: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU  
Cc: mulder@server4.nfra.nl  
Subject: [18537] Fwd: Crystals  
Message-ID: <s5e53a56.054@server4.nfra.nl>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: message/rfc822

Received: from water.waterw.com  
([199.171.193.1])  
by server4.nfra.nl; Wed, 26 Aug 1998 08:57:55 +0200  
Received: (from majordom@localhost)  
by water.waterw.com (8.8.5/8.8.5) id CAA15553  
for liqrp-list; Wed, 26 Aug 1998 02:56:47 -0400 (EDT)  
X-Authentication-Warning: water.waterw.com: majordom set sender to owner-  
liqrp@waterw.com using -f  
Received: from server4.nfra.nl (server4.nfra.nl [192.87.1.2])  
by water.waterw.com (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id CAA15548  
for <liqrp@waterw.com>; Wed, 26 Aug 1998 02:56:45 -0400 (EDT)  
Received: from NFRA-Message\_Server by server4.nfra.nl  
with Novell\_GroupWise; Wed, 26 Aug 1998 08:53:46 +0200  
Message-Id: <s5e3cd1a.079@server4.nfra.nl>  
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.2  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 08:53:17 +0200  
From: "Eim Mulder" <mulder@server4.nfra.nl>  
To: liqrp@waterw.com  
Cc: mulder@server4.nfra.nl  
Subject: Crystals  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by water.waterw.com id  
CAA15549  
Sender: owner-liqrp@waterw.com  
Precedence: bulk  
Reply-To: liqrp@waterw.com  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable  
Content-Disposition: inline

Hallo everyone,

I,m searching for several surplus/used crystals to be used in a simple =  
homebrew FM rig for 29MHz. In some older type CB equipment there where =  
crystals available for the higher channels but i do not know what the =  
highest freq. they ever used on this band.  
I want to hold evrthing so simple as possible but if the aboved =  
mentioned crystals not exist then I must put a dubbler or tripler after =  
the oscillator. In that case I also looking for cryals between 9.667 - 9.9 =

MHz and 14.5 -14.85MHz

If this works I also want to try to make something for one FM channel for =  
6m. Here in Holland we mostly use for simplex FM 50.350 and 50.400=20

So everyone Please look in all boxes you have and see if have some =  
crystals what you can miss ofcourse which I could use in one of the =  
projects, or possible you have already made something like this and want =  
to share your experience with others.

Yust late me know

73,s            Eim        PA3CMD

Eim mulder

mulder@nfra.nl

=3D LI QRP =  
Club Mailing List =3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D=  
=3D=3D

To unsubscribe from this list, send email to listserver@waterw.com  
and put the text "unsubscribe liqrp" in the message. To post a  
message to the list, send email to liqrp@waterw.com.

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 02:04:56 -0700  
From: "Bill Todd" <bill@willapabay.org>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18538] Emergency Power considerations  
Message-ID: <007d01bdd199\$c9b31480\$184ffbce@default>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"...If for some reason we all lost power for an extended period, how many of  
us would still be on the air? Would there be enough of us to handle even  
bare-bones traffic for our communities?

Wayne - Your post about whether or not we are prepared, is g very good  
question indeed.

I have been planning a emergency power source for quite some time, but have yet to generate the funds to do it. One thing I have considered in designing my own system, is to realistically estimate the power that I will require. IMHO, if we REALLY want to help our communities I think we must realize that we will not be able to depend on CW communications ALONE to handle all the traffic that will come our way.

With a good signal path, packet, TCP/IP "ampr.org" ham stations will probably carry much of the load for sending and receiving traffic, and I believe that if we really want to be of maximum service, we should consider the power required to also run a computer, TNC and 2 meter radio...as WELL as a CW station.

I regularly check-in on 3 different CW nets, but there are only so many Nets available. to handle all the traffic that might be required. With packet, you can send or receive a message any time of the day, as long as you have a node or TCP/IP system in your area.

Packet is not a replacement for my favorite mode (CW), but I think we must include packet when planning our requirements.

CUL, Bill-N7MFB  
<http://www.willapabay.org/~bill>  
ICQ me @ 8926298

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 05:40:59 -0400  
From: cy r currier <crc3@telplus.net>  
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>,  
"kd1jv@moose.ncia.net" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
Subject: [18539] RE: Crazy paddle idea, not so crazy!  
Message-ID: <01BDD17D.45BBE1A0@bgr5.lobster.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

is it me or did the old boy sniff too much of his melted solder?? cy - k1tes

-----  
From: Steven Weber  
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 1998 12:23 PM  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Crazy paddle idea, not so crazy!

I dug through the junk pile and found a digital bathroom scale which used a real strain gauge, mounted on a flat steel bar, about 3" long and 3/4" wide. I had to grind some matterial away from the side opposite the gauge, to make it more sensitive. Still got some work to do to make it practical, but intial results look promising.

72,

Steve, KD1JV....In the White Mountains of New Hampshire

"Melt Solder"

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 05:45:13 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Jim Fielden <fielden@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>  
To: qrp@qth.net, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18540] Winding Coils and ARRL CD and Latenight QRP  
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.96.980827052755.17313A-100000@larry.cas.utk.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hello All,

I have been thinking about inductors and chokes and seems like torids are the way to go, or moded chokes. But what if I need say a 2.2uH choke and all I have is some wire, and household items (Pill bottles, Molly McButter containers ect)...

Is there a simple formula or chart that I could use to know how many turns of say 28gauge wire on a 1" diam plastic form it would take to get my 2.2uH? I only use 2.2uH as an example, it could be anything 100uH 10mH what ever.

I'm sure I should know this but it seems to have left my brain if it was ever there. Also lets see 1mH is the same as 1000uH?

Next question. I am thinking about ordering the ARRL CD that has the back issues of QST on them, I want the 1975 thur 1979 one, but that seems like a lot of money to pay, anyone have this that might comment on it, let me know what it's like, is it easy to print from, is it all black and white I wish I could borrow one to look at but if it gets good comments I think I'll spring for it, I noticed that seemed to be the good years for qrp projects from Doug and others...

Ok last item of this mail, any QRPers stay up past 10pm? I like to scan the bands from midnight on up until 6:am (night shift worker) but not alot of use on at those hours. I'm going to be on 10.116 + or - a few KHZ over the next 7 days, if you want to work some 30 Meter with me (if it's really dead I'll be on 7040 to 7050), I like working around 15 wpm upto about 20 if I'm pushed and glad to work down to 1 wpm if needed, so hook up that rig you been eager to test and that rusty key and lets atleast swap rst, qth, name, rig, ant, and wx hw cpy?

72 es CUL  
Jim, KU4QW  
fielden@utkux.utcc.utk.edu  
<http://www.qsl.net/ku4qw/>

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 06:57:25 -0400  
From: "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18541] Using big rigs on qrp  
Message-ID: <19980827115518.BSAY11351@[206.141.209.191]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

What's the feeling about using, say, and IC706 on qrp power?

I know y'all like to build things, and I've built 13 of the little buggers for qrp. But that's pushing \$1200. I could have bought a real radio for that kind of money.

So I'm going to use my 706, which even has a good receiver.

Good practice. Think I've established that I can build them.

73 jerry w8gnd  
(Oops, I didn't count my 2 HW8's -- now we're talking real money)

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 02:34:00 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>  
To: Ron Polityka <wb3aal@talon.net>

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18542] Re: TAC Contest Prize  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9808270215.A4517-01000000@bc.seflin.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Wed, 26 Aug 1998, Ron Polityka wrote:

>

> I want to send a big thanks out to Cameron, KT3A and the  
> Eastern PA QRP Club for the First Place Prize in the QRPP  
> category. I received a nice ARCI QRP Mug and mouse pad.  
> Guess what, I really needed both of them!

>

I also received a package in the mail today from Cam. At the risk of  
again inviting impeachment, the mug is proudly displayed atop my  
Ameritron AL-1500 amplifier (I go both ways) and the mouse pad sits next  
to the keyboard at my operating position.

Thanks, Cam!!

73,

Bob Patten, N4BP                      ( 0 0 )                      Plantation, FL  
-----o00o-( )-o00-----

E-Mail: n4bp@bc.seflin.org  
Web Page: <http://wg104a.wh.uni-stuttgart.de/~n4bp>  
Brass Pounder BBS: (954) 472-7715

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 07:16:18 -0400  
From: Art Marshall <artm@t-com.com>  
To: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18543] band doctor  
Message-ID: <01BDD18A.96553320.artm@t-com.com>

Is there a band doctor in the house. good grief, 20m was broke at my house  
last nite, couldnt hr anything on CW, every now and then I heard some faint  
echos like I was listening thru a hollow tube. was it like that anywhere  
else.

73 art w1fji

< DO IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME>



-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 06:51:30 -0500 (EST)  
From: bob evinger <revinger@marshallonline.com>  
To: "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18544] Re: Using big rigs on qrp  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.96.980827064747.655B-1000000@WD9EKA.ampr.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I "have to" use my TS-690 when I want to run qrp on anything but 40 meters. I hate to do it from the point that I am pulling 2 amps on receive, but I have plenty of battery to run it. I am wanting to expand my qrp gear, just have to come up with the funding. My wife who is also a ham let me put up 2 45 foot towers this spring so she is not real conducive to buying another radio. :) Maybe I will get rid of my PK\_900, just better not turn it on to check it out though lest I might not want to get rid of it :)

Bob Evinger | 19250 N. Livingston Road | revinger@marshallonline.com  
WD9EKA | Marshall, IL 62441 |

On Thu, 27 Aug 1998, Jerry W. O'Dell wrote:

> What's the feeling about using, say, and IC706 on qrp power?  
>  
> I know y'all like to build things, and I've built 13 of the little buggers  
> for qrp. But that's pushing \$1200. I could have bought a real  
> radio for that kind of money.  
>  
> So I'm going to use my 706, which even has a good receiver.  
>  
> Good practice. Think I've established that I can build them.  
>  
> 73 jerry w8gnd  
> (Oops, I didn't count my 2 HW8's -- now we're talking real money)  
>  
>  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 06:45:29 -0500

From: applitech@mcg.net (Claton Cadmus)  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18545] Key and paddle alternative designs  
Message-ID: <014801bdd1b3\$a7189840\$a10a5e2c@groucho>

I've been really enjoying this discussion about "alternative" key/paddles. I started to wonder why these ideas never seem to catch on and I think I figured it out. Keys with regular contacts provide a "synchronous" feel. Just as the arm hits the mechanical contact it stops, firmly, with a sound of its own, and the sidetone/transmitter starts immediately. This is very hard to duplicate without mechanical contacts.

Stain gauges, IR, touch plates, capacitive sensing, all lack this combination feel. Also it's pretty hard to beat a good set of contacts for simplicity. Hope we keep trying though!

----

73 de KA0GKC Claton Cadmus  
cla@mcg.net  
MNQRP #1

Minnesota QRP'ers we're looking for you!  
Email me or visit this page <http://www.qsl.net/mnqrp>

-----

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:32:47 -0400  
From: Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>  
To: mikemo@ibm.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18546] Re: Screwdriver antenna plans?  
Message-ID: <35E551EF.66C02FC3@rica.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Where does one obtain plans for a screwdriver antenna?

Write W6AAQ, Don Johnson at his callbook address. Send \$5.00. He'll send you a packet of photocopied info from which you can build his latest version.

72, Paul, Wv3j

-----

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 07:39:49 -0500  
From: "Wes Jenson" <n0ihm@info.starpoint.net>  
To: "QRP-L list" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18547] Straight key or ???  
Message-ID: <199808271242.HAA09357@info.starpoint.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

To all:

With all this discussion of alternative keys, such as IROSK, Copperhead capacitive, touch plates, strain gauges, etc.....I was wondering, are these considered "straight keys", as they can sound like one since they "key" the rig as long as you "hold" the so-called "key" down. Just wondering about Straight Key Night, and such????  
I do have the goods to make the IROSK, just have the little piece of wood carved out and haven't gotten the board into it.....thinking of going bigger to hold the 9 volt battery inside, but the piece of oak chair I scavanged the wood from wasn't wide enough. Will carve again.

Wes Jenson, N0IHM qrp-l 566 Marshall, MN  
n0ihm@starpoint.net

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:59:56 EDT  
From: Mercxx@aol.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18548] Batteries/Gel cells  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi all,

Looking for information. What are some good mail order sources to obtain gel cell batteries and chargers for portable operation?

Tks in advance  
Steve  
N4TKP  
FIST 4922

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 09:25:14 -0400 (EDT)  
From: afpgreg@state.me.us (Paul V. Gregory)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18549] FS: W7EL 2w 40m QRP xcvr  
Message-ID: <199808271325.JAA20978@gatekeeper.ddp.state.me.us>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Price now reduced!

This is a W7EL design.

Nicely built on a PC board. Near full 40 meter coverage (7.000-7.070 and 7.100-7.300) cw xmit with Hartley VFO. PA uses rugged MRF476.

Features:

- Full electronic QSK
- Stable VFO
- RIT
- Offset freq. monitoring
- Rx current drain less than 20mA @ 12vDC
- Direct conversion rx which used double bandpass filter and an active AF filter for image-free reception
- sidetone

Size: approx 3" h x 6" d x 5" wide

Copies of schematics available by SASE.

Price: \$90 plus shipping, \$95 w/12vDC PS.

tnx fer reading de N1ZR, Paul

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:43:30  
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18550] Strange lights in der sky!  
Message-ID: <3.0.3.16.19980827084330.22cf23d8@mailhost.ncia.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

An erriee glow to the northern horizen. Over head, what looked like wissspy clouds, but weren't, shimmered and pulsed with flashes of light. Yes

indeed, northern lights!

I feel like I won the lottery last night :-) The chances of having clear  
skys, mild temps, no moon and an X-class solar flare all at the same time  
are, well, astronomical.

BTW, see the September issue of Astronomy Magazine for some pictures of the  
VLA in New Mexico. The article says it's pretty lonely out there, is that  
so, Paul?

72,  
Steve, KD1JV....In the White Mountains of New Hampshire

"Melt Solder"

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 09:35:38 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>  
To: Wes Jenson <n0ihm@info.starpoint.net>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18551] Re: Straight key or ???  
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.96.980827092648.1074A-100000@moe.cas.utk.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

> I was wondering, are these considered  
> "straight  
> keys", as they can sound like one since they "key" the rig as long as you  
> "hold" the  
> so-called "key" down. Just wondering about Straight Key Night, and  
> such????

When I first published IROESK, I posed the same question. The answer at  
that time was, "Do not ask." Just send in your log, and let others  
compliment your sending.

Actually, your "big" rig has internal circuitry between the mechanical  
J-38 (or whatever) and the RF train. So I suspect it is a matter of  
whether you get perfect dits and dahs from your body part motion or from  
dot/dash making circuits. All of the straight keys of IR, touch,  
proximity, etc. qualify under this idea.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 09:43:21 -0400  
From: Tom Cooper <cooper@gmpvt.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18552] Re: band doctor  
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19980827094321.007bbe80@web.gmpvt.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Things were the same in Burlington, VT but we had a nice bright aurora (northern lights) to look at.

Actually, when signals sound the way they did last night, hollow and ringing, 80 and 160 are often wide open, so I listened down there and HF0POL (S. Shetlands, Antarctica) had quite a pile-up going around 3.508.

Tom W1EAT

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 09:54:01 -0400  
From: Zack Lau <zlau@arrl.org>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18553] Re: How Do "U" Call It QRP (Short Man\'s Complex?)  
Message-ID: <35E564F9.62C4@arrl.org>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'd be impressed if you could make 300km contacts on 10 or 24 GHz with 5 watts EIRP and a 40 dBi antenna--pointing that 1.5 degree beamwidth antenna takes some skill.

Zack Lau W1VT Good 10 GHz path--Mt Everett, Egremont MA to Mt Washington, NH (FN32gc to FN44ig) 298 km

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:50:45 -0500  
From: "Bridges, Scott, HMR/US" <Scott.Bridges@hmrag.com>

To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18554] MFJ-9040 opinions  
Message-ID: <ABE8A0D0621BD111B9AF00805FBE77B3021D129E@kansmxsusr04>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain

Does anyone have any comments positive or negative concerning the  
MFJ-9040 CW Transceiver?

Thanks for your time,

Scott Bridges, KB0PQE

"Life takes its toll. Bring change."

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 8:51 -0600  
From: "Karl Kanalz - Dallas" <kkanalz@optelinc.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, "Zack Lau"  
<zlau@arrl.org>  
Subject: [18555] Re: QRP, running dogs, Pogo  
Message-ID: <568A3FC0@optelinc.com>

Lex Moxon's book (RSGB publication) on HF antennas dis-  
cusses wire antennas over "non-flat ground", but doesn't  
go into a method of calculating the gain of such radiators.  
He says he'd like to live on a hill and put the dipoles on  
the "side" of the hill for an ideal radiation pattern.

Karl K. - W8TIF  
McKinney, TX  
-----

From: Zack Lau  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion  
Subject: Re: QRP, running dogs, Pogo  
Date: Wednesday, August 26, 1998 10:38AM

How do you calculate the gain of wire antennas over  
ground that isn't flat?

It would be great to look at a topo map and figure out the  
best place to put the wires, taking full advantage of both  
reflection and diffraction effects.

--Zack W1VT  
10 GHz DX--Manchester VT to Camden ME 350 km Grid #16

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:13:18 EDT  
From: DYARNES@aol.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18556] (no subject)  
Message-ID: <49f43cbe.35e5697f@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I just looked up "caveat emptor" in the dictionary. Guess what! There's a picture of the SGC 2020 right there next to the definition.

72 de Dave W7AQK

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:17:53 -0600 (MDT)  
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>  
To: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18557] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.980827081328.18511A-1000000@zia>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Thu, 27 Aug 1998, Steven Weber wrote:

> An erriee glow to the northern horizen.  
> Yes, indeed, northen lights!

Northern lights ... you make some of us envious. I was hoping for a dull red glow down here, but nothing. Too far south. (32 deg. N)

> BTW, see the September issue of Astronomy Magazine for some pictures of the  
> VLA in New Mexico. The article says it's pretty lonely out there, is that  
> so, Paul?

Not with all the friends I have on QRP-L :-)



72, Paul NA5N

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 09:26:00 -0500  
From: Bill Schiller <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18558] QRP++ Sold Another one still available  
Message-ID: <35E56C78.6FB9099A@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The QRP++ that I listed has been sold. Dave Williams WBOGAZ sent me an email saying that he too has a QRP++ available his email address is dwillims@iso.net  
TNX Bill KJ5CI

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:43:50 -0400  
From: Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>  
To: skousen@srv.net, "Qrpl\_Submit (E-mail)" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18559] RE: Group Buy: Elmer 200 Reference  
Message-ID: <21E06269B00ED111BE9B00805F6D0FA335FAA8@MAILSERVER1>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain

Niel,

I would be interested in the entire 9 volume set. This should help us towards a volume discount. I'm also putting this on the qrpl list to show others that the discount pricing can easily be achieved.

Sam Billingsley    AE4GX    Atlanta, GA

>>>snip>>>

> Pricing is  
> 1-9        \$25 ea  
> 10-49     \$16.50 ea  
> 50-100    \$14.00 ea  
> 100+      \$12.00 ea

>  
> We can mix & match for quantity volume, Summary extracts are included  
> below. Shipping will be about \$1/vol. (from Idaho :-)  
>

>>>snip>>>

> -----  
> Niel Skousen : WA7SSA skousen@srv.net  
> Idaho Falls, ID QRP-L.119 fr DN33wm  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:40:11 -0600  
From: "Hulbert, Nick" <nick.hulbert@lmco.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "V.C. Angell"  
<angell@northernnet.com>  
Subject: [18560] RE: QRP troubles  
Message-ID: <5104C9F8B0B5D1118C250000F8062537BE48D0@emss02m13.ems.lmco.com>  
Content-return: allowed  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Hey VC!!

Put the QRP stuff in nice boxes with labeling etc and you won't loose =  
=E9m.

Hi Hi=20

Nick KG5N

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:51:31 -0600  
From: Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18561] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
Message-ID: <199808271452.IAA05975@srv.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Had my first northern lights in Idaho Falls ID last night too, Cool  
didn't last long but was really neat

>An erriee glow to the northern horizen. Over head, what looked like wispy

>clouds, but weren't, shimmered and pulsed with flashes of light. Yes  
>indeed, northern lights!  
>  
>72,  
>Steve, KD1JV....In the White Mountains of New Hampshire  
>  
>"Melt Solder"  
>

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 09:53:14 -0600 (MDT)  
From: marion@montana.com  
To: Mercxx@aol.com  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18562] Re: solar powered  
Message-ID: <199808271553.JAA17984@paw.montana.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 04:38 AM 8/27/98 EDT, you wrote:

>Roy,  
> I notice that you are all solar power. Can you give me some recommendations  
>on how and where to purchase the proper solar gear. I just a new guy trying to  
>learn...  
>  
>73s  
>Steve  
>N4TKP  
>

I'm no expert. I just was lucky to buy the right gear. Start by reading and get all the catalogs. One of the best (and cheapest) places for panels is SolarDepot <http://www.solardepot.com/> . Antennas West also had complete systems aimed at ham/Rv use. They have changed hands and I don't know what is available. I have one of their 22watt systems that powers our entire field day setup. I do all of my QRP at home with two deep cycle batts and a 11watt panel. One battery is always charging. The good panels still trickle charge even in the shade or under cloudy skies. Gel cells dont require much wattage, but require a good charge controller. Stay away from the junk in bargain catlogs. Good panels have come down in price, good batterys will cost as much as the panels. My astronomy observatory is also solar powered. If Montana Power is off, I want to make sure the important things still run :) Roy AB7CE

-----

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:09:56 +0000  
From: Roger Hightower <n7kt@earthlink.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18563] FS: NorCal 40A w/KC-1 (kits)  
Message-ID: <35E51454.E88539EA@earthlink.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For sale: NorCal 40A kit (Wilderness version) with KC-1 keyer kit and  
KC-1 front panel. \$185.00 from Wilderness.....\$150 shipped from me.

--

72/73, de Roger, N7KT - QRP-L #62 - Mesa, AZ

-----

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:09:22 -0500  
From: "Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>  
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18564] RE: Strange lights in der sky!  
Message-ID: <19980827150926199.AAA306@muenzlerk>

I got to see those once. It was back in 1989 here in  
south Texas. I live in the country so my sky is very  
dark. It actually looked like a large city to the north,  
I have no large cities to the north. It was a very deep  
red turning more orange toward the horizon.

73/

Kevin, WB5RUE

> -----Original Message-----  
> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
> [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of  
> Niel Skousen  
> Sent: Thursday, August 27, 1998 9:52 AM  
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion  
> Subject: Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
>  
>  
> Had my first northern lights in Idaho Falls ID last night too, Cool  
> didn't last long but was really neat  
>  
> >An erriee glow to the northern horizen. Over head, what  
> looked like wispy  
> >clouds, but weren't, shimmered and pulsed with flashes of light. Yes

> >indeed, northen lights!  
> >  
> >72,  
> >Steve, KD1JV....In the White Mountains of New Hampshire  
> >  
> >"Melt Solder"  
> >  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:02:27 -0700  
From: "Steve Miller" <kg7pv@teleport.com>  
To: "QRP-L : to send msg to list" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18565] Copper head paddle  
Message-ID: <006801bdd1cb\$cdf20b00\$eaaecacc@newmicronpc>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I build one from the original 73 article. It was both paddle and keyer.  
Works very well but the three copper surfaces must be kept clean. I found  
that my dry hands were sometimes helps by some sort of hand lotion. Still  
use them sometimes. 73

Steve Miller kg7pv@teleport.com  
Portland,OR

Norcal #308, ARCI #9230, QRP-L # 109

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:10:50 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18566] Re: How Do "U" Call It QRP (Short Man\'s Complex?)  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.96.980827080338.23601B-1000000@vortex>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

One more thought.....

When talking about ERP, here is another thing to think about.....

Lets say we are running 5 watts into the antenna.

What's the ERP?

Well, you could say that it's 5 watts, ignoring losses.

If you focus the "beam" in one direction, you have reduced it in the others, giving a net of 5 watts, right?

Antennas are nothing like amp's! They do not make power.

For those who talk about not using good antennas, what would be OK to use?

Is there such a thing as an antenna that doesn't have some kind of shaping going on? I don't think so.

See what happens when I don't stay busy? :-)

cul,

73, Ron,        SOWP 5545M,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:25:00 -0400  
From: "Gene Hall" <evhall@ix.netcom.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Cc: <wa4hhp@amsat.org>  
Subject: [18567] Ceramic Tuning Tools  
Message-ID: <005401bdd1ce\$dcfa47e0\$23abbacd@#evhall>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

They are finally here!

I'll be packaging them up tonight and getting them in the mail tomorrow.

A couple of folks have asked if there were any extras...I think I ordered a couple extra but I need to get them packaged to be sure.

I'll post details tomorrow if there are any extras.

72.....Gene...WA4HHP...Summerville, SC

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:14:51  
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18568] RE: Crazy paddle idea, not so crazy!  
Message-ID: <3.0.3.16.19980827101451.31cfcd1a@mailhost.ncia.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>is it me or did the old boy sniff too much of his melted solder?? cy - kites  
>  
Hmm, you might be right there Cy.

Maybe I should lay off this stuff for a while. Knitting classes start soon.  
Can I interest anyone in hand knitted rig covers? :-)))

Steve, KD1JV....In the White Mountains of New Hampshire

"Melt Solder"

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:39:09 -0500 (CDT)  
From: jdenison@morelr.com (JOEL DENISON)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18569] W/R antennas ARE FALLING  
Message-ID: <199808271539.KAA21444@ns1.morelr.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

hIGH gang:

Well, the antennas work... three elements on forty, thirty, twenty... they are hanging horizontal... and screaming 'round the world, well, most of it.

Lots of rope and wire above the house, at least one side of it... I guess it's time to drop one end of the support system and see how these suckers do vertically polarized...

getting close to winter time and need to decide on a rain, sneaux, ice proof ant to make it through the duration... oh decisions...

Oh, Oh... do u know what u call a guy working qrp from a tent in -30\* wx? Why, A TRUE, BLUE, QRP'er, that's what... hee, hee

joel in maine, waiting for the wind to blow some sneaux

WA5CVM

Joel Denison

PO BOX 542

3-element Wire/Rope yagi for 40mtrs & 20mtrs & 30mtrs

Strong, Maine 04983

Gentle Lady R C sailplane

jdenison@morelr.com

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:48:23 -0700

From: jcs4us@cosmoaccess.net

To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [18570] RE: SGC-2020 Call the FTC!!

Message-ID: <3.0.32.19980827084819.007437b0@wingate>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hello there.. If I were the owner of one of those 2020's and they wanted 90 bucks to make it work correctly I would warn them that I would be contacting the Federal Trade Commission and report there illicit busness practices if they would repair there rig...

I received a notice from a company that I didn't "Qualify" for a \$30.00 rebate on a product I purchased that came with a rebate because I gave them my PO Box as a mailing address.. So I looked atthe paper work and nowhere did it say anything about a PO Box.. Oh and get this this was after waiting 8 months

to hear that!! I emailed them and told them that I would contact the FTC if I didn't have my rebate in two weeks... It was here in 6 days!!

Requards, Alan



-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:51:22 PDT  
From: "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18571] Re: Laser-pointer/key??  
Message-ID: <19980827155122.25816.qmail@hotmail.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain

dave\_epps@juno.com wrote:

> Will a laser pointer turn on and off fast enough to send  
> code at any reasonable speed? Years ago, in the Navy, we  
> keyed the yardarm blinkers with a hand-key, but with a bug  
> they just flickered.

You can make them flicker at megahertz rates if you want -  
this is the principle of things like FDDI data networks.  
This requires removing the guts from the pointer and wiring  
new circuitry for it. ATUR (All The Usual References)...

Modulating a subcarrier onto the laser diode also gives  
the opportunity to avoid interference from street lights  
and such.

How about 474 THz (633 nm) with a 3.8 MHz SSB/BPSK/whatever  
subcarrier? These frequencies are terra incognita in the  
ITU regs, so you can do just about anything you want.

Laura Halliday VE7LDH    "Que les nuages soient notre  
Grid now: CN88hk                    pied a terre..."  
Soon: FN03gs                        - Hospital/Shafte

-----  
Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 15:58:57 +0000  
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18572] RE: QRP, Power/Beam Ant. argument.  
Message-ID: <35E58241.67B3@qsl.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here I was all set to make the Isotropic/Beam antenna argument and I see Ade has already posted that. Thanks Ade, saves me some words :)

It is all Directivity, folks. What goes in, comes out. How you focus it is your business.

And so what if some ham has a 30 dB gain antenna? Sure it will turn his 1 Watt into 1 KW. Realize just how small that beam of energy will be! Pretty hard to work the world unless you move it around, and accurately.

Get a string about 15 inches long. Tie the ends together and now you have a loop. Lay the loop on the table. Now shape it into different beam patterns. Notice something?

Yup. Sacrifice signal at 60 degrees for more at 30 etc...

Now if there was a way to make 1 Watt to a dipole provide the same pattern and field strength as the guy with 1KW to another dipole, Not only would that be cheating, but you'd be breaking the law.

The law of nature.

Hmmmm, what'd dey put in the Coffee last cpl o' days???

-Ed

--

72, Ed WE6W (CW only/VP-0); <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA  
QRP-Z#106 QRP-L#1068 AR#112 NC#2227 ARCI#9397

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 16:08:22 GMT  
From: n4js@pobox.com (John Sielke)  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18573] Re: SGC-2020 CALL the FTC!!  
Message-ID: <35e68392.352915@mail.snip.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

On Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:48:23 -0700, you typed:

>Hello there.. If I were the owner of one of those 2020's .....

Say waht you will about "negative" publicity, but it was comments and "reviews" qrp-1 that convinced me to cancle my order six months ago. I am SO thankful I did! My sincere thanks to those who braved the ire of the "qrp thought police" and posted their honest opinions of the SGC2020.

Now watch, someone will come up with a "qrp thought police" badge and t-shirt!

```

      =20
  / \  / \  / \  / \  John L. Sielke n4js@pobox.com n4js@qsl.net
 ( N ) ( 4 ) ( J ) ( S ) NJ Grid:FM29LN http://www.qsl.net/n4js
  \_/  \_/  \_/  \_/  NJ-QRP #57 QRP-L #884 QRP-ARCI ARQrp #86
    G-QRP #9544 NorCal #1989 CQC AKQRP QCWA FISTS #2781

```

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:02:13 -0500  
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18574] QSL WAITING TIME - TNX!  
Message-ID: <000A83F6.4159@ccgate.dl.nec.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Description: cc:Mail note part

Thanks to those who answered my message about the waiting time for receiving return DX cards.

To summarize: Most folks said that a 1-2 year wait is not too unusual for the buro. Some have reported getting cards as much as 5 years later! Some cards wait for months until enough are accumulated to make sending worth while.

I guess the main idea is that one must be very patient for cards to arrive via this route. The faster alternative is to QSL direct with a SASE and IRC, etc. This can get quite expensive for the active ham.

Guess I'll get back to operating, and stop looking into the mailbox! :-)

73 de Dave, NR3E  
QRP-L #25  
nr Dallas, TX

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:19:43 -0500  
From: "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>  
To: jwodel@ameritech.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18575] Re: Using big rigs on qrp  
Message-ID: <35E5871F.2E654B66@swbell.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Watts are fungible. ;^)

72/73, George didit dit  
Amateur Radio W5YR, 52 years and counting! 33.2 N 96.6 W EM13RE  
QRP-L #1373 QRP ARCI #9583 FISTS #4930 ARS #403 ICQ #16819496  
AutoPOWER Systems, Fairview, TX (30 Mi. NE of Dallas) 10-X #11771

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 16:21:27 GMT  
From: n4js@pobox.com (John Sielke)  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18576] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
Message-ID: <35e58309.215843@mail.snip.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

On Thu, 27 Aug 1998 08:17:53 -0600 (MDT), you typed:

.  
>  
>> An erriee glow to the northern horizen.  
>> Yes, indeed, northen lights!=20  
>  
>Northern lights ... you make some of us envious.=20

I was stationed in Iceland for a year, but the best Aurora I saw was  
in Montana. Last night, however, the display here in S. NJ was



To: n4js@pobox.com  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18578] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
Message-ID: <199808271727.LAA20955@paw.montana.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>

>I was stationed in Iceland for a year, but the best Aurora I saw was  
>in Montana. Last night, however, the display here in S. NJ was  
>impressive, although the clouds rolled in too soon.

>

It was quite impresssve here last nite in Butte, MT. Huge overhead auroras,  
and some to the south of us! Worked bunches of aurora stations on six mtrs  
last nite and this morning. 72 Roy AB7CE

-----

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:43:12 -0500  
From: Bill Schiller <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18579] SG2020 mods under warranty  
Message-ID: <35E58CA0.A3EF359@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

First I want to say that I have NO affiliation with SGC. Now I will say  
that after my initial post comparing my 2020 with my QRP++,which was not  
very favorable toward the 2020,SGC contacted me and asked me to return  
the radio for an inspection and possible repairs. I did this and in two  
weeks it was returned with the new software upgrade,an "anti- popping"  
modification and a complete recalibration.Now there is no chirp and the  
receiver does seem to be a bit better[qualitative analysis only]in the  
presence of strong signals.There was no charge for any of this and they  
initiated the contact.I was impressed by this! Last weekend the rig  
locked -up on me but was ok again after turning it off then back on[I  
suspect a transient or some stray RF]I called them about this and a  
service rep.discussed it with me and made a note of this on my service  
file in case it becomes a problem in the future and after the warranty  
runs out.I do not have the extended warranty!

I'm not defending SGC, but they did OK for me. It's not perfect,but I  
like the rig.As for the software upgrade maybe something can be  
worked-out to everyone's satisfaction by talking with them before

reporting them to the FTC.  
72's  
Bill KJ5CI

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 09:44:08 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Richard Fisher <nu6sn@yahoo.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18580] nu6SN at Boxboro  
Message-ID: <19980827164408.20353.rocketmail@send103.yahoomail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I'll be representing Worldradio magazine at the 1998 New England ARRL Convention at Boxboro, MA Saturday and Sunday and would love to have nor'east QRPers stop by and say hello.

This is a rare opportunity for me, and it would be great to meet the area operators I've heard or read so much about on this list and other QRP publications.

Will have camera in hand to capture the QRP moments and very much look forward to seeing you all Aug. 29-30.

Vy 72,

Richard Fisher, nu6SN  
QRP columnist, Worldradio

-----  
DO YOU YAHOO!?  
Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>  
-----

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:48:18 -0500  
From: Bill Schiller <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18581] Correction to additional QRP++ FS  
Message-ID: <35E58DD2.8BD7D1DD@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The other QRP++ for sale is from David Feldman at dfg@netcom.com I got my David's mixed up it is NOT from David Williams.

SORRY DAVID!!!!

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 12:17:49 -0500  
From: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18582] PV (solar panel) source  
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19980827121749.007a0260@mailbox.arn.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

For those interested in acquiring PV (photovoltaic) panels at a reasonable price, check out <http://www.solarelectricinc.com>

In addition to larger panels & other stuff, they carry factory blemished Uni-Solar flexible panels. I bought a 5 watt version for about \$50 (1/2 the price of a new one). The phone guy warned me that it would be somewhat unsightly, but that they warranted it for full output. Sure enough, it's got gouges & scrapes that would have destroyed a mono- or polycrystalline panel, but it still puts out 22+ volts & 350+ mA short-circuited, just like the new specs claim.

To clarify: these panels are amorphous, that is the silicon is essentially bonded onto a surface, instead of growing silicon ingots & slicing them up.

Amorphous panels are much cheaper, can be flexible & almost unbreakable (the Uni-Solars are bonded to a thin sheet of stainless steel, encased in UV-resistant vinyl of some type), but have lower efficiencies than mono- or polycrystalline panels. OLD amorphous panels used to seriously degrade in efficiency over time, but the current crop usually carry 10 year warranties.

Amorphous panels are the ones seen lately in PV integrated roofing (i.e. the PV cell and roofing material are all in one!). Coincedentally,



Uni-Solar is the market leader in that field, as they are in the whole amorphous field.

Now, those that I mentioned above ARE factory blems, so they are probably a year or 2 old anyway. Mine works just fine, tho, in conjunction with a Sun Light Energy Systems (<http://www.seslogic.com/>) (run by a ham!) controller to keep a 4 AH gel cell up & running for my Sierra.

As usual, I have no connection with anyone mentioned above, other than being a happy customer.

73

mike

KM5PE, Canyon TX QRP-L # 576

grad student, Alternative Energy Institute, West Texas A&M University

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 13:19:23 -0400  
From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>  
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18583] Lost in the 'woulds'  
Message-ID: <199808271726.NAA18117@gold.muskoka.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gheez...everytime I think I know which QRP rig to buy or build, someone here sings the praises of another one I have not heard about before. Went to Dayton first time this year but did not know about QRP activities happening just around the corner. Turning a regular rig down to 5 w and eating 2 amps on receive makes no sense in the field which is my fav operating setting. Anybody ever see a list of QRP rigs generally available in the market? Guess I will just make my own list of 'must have' features and then try to find the rig or plans or kit. With all you 'techliterate' seasoned Q.R. peers out there, how come you have not decided on the ultimate compromise rig? Hey...how about a contest:

Top Ten Qualities Really Preferred.....T T Q R P... then we get SGC to build it. hahaha.

I would welcome your thoughts on what features and qualities really matter to you in a QRP rig. Cheers.

Armin Hachmer VE3TEQ

-----  
Date: Wed, 26 Aug 1998 22:06:16 -0500  
From: n5inz@juno.com (John M Andrews)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18584] Band-pass filters...revisited.  
Message-ID: <19980826.220617.3382.2.N5INZ@juno.com>

Being flat on my back for a while gave me a chance to ponder some of the books I had passed over for a while- My worn and well-thumbed copy of "Solid State Design" fell into my hands and happened to turn to the appendix on "Band Pass Filters".

Oh, joy. Another mass of complicated gob of math and formulas I need to stumble thru....Hmmm....not so!

Wes does a great job of creating standard formats for 160-6 meter(but non-WARC) bandpass filters and some great test procedures.

Even he admits that finding the right fixed caps for the given filter can be a challenge. He suggests putting 3 in parallel and doing a little switching around to get the right combination. I thought back on Chuck's idea for the AADE L/C IIB meter about using machine pins to test components quickly. I dug out a 4 pin machine pin dip ic socket and a small piece of pc board. After making a pattern in the center, and drilling the holes for the socket, I soldered the socket- flipped the board over and scraped the copper from between the pins right down the middle. Next- used the nibbler to allow it to fit the binding posts.

Using disc and NP0 caps, I took a stab at finding the right combinations. Pretty slow. Welllll...Fine sandpaper applied to the top of one or two of the caps and a little elbow grease and Voila! looks pretty close to 68.4 pF to me. A dab of clear nail polish to keep gunk out of the "wounded" cap seems to work.

Let me know how it works for you.

72, John- N5INZ

-----  
You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.  
Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com>  
Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 12:27:30 -0500  
From: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18585] FS: Sony ICF-2010 receiver (Price Reduced)  
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19980827122730.007a0e10@mailbox.arn.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

For sale: Sony ICF-2010 receiver. Covers 150 kHz - 30 MHz continuous, plus 76 - 108 MHz & air band (116 - 136 MHz). Has AM/FM/USB/LSB-CW modes, plus synchronous detection. If you've never listened to shortwave AM broadcasts with synchronous detection, you don't know what you're missing. It GREATLY reduces fading (& your frustration!). Displays to 100 Hz. This is a sweet receiver.

Excellent condition (a few very minor small scratches), with manual & AC wall wart. Many mods available, but this one's never been opened. Works great. Grad school starts up next week & need some extra cash. Asking \$200 (money order or cashier's check only) including priority mail or USPS ground shipping in U.S. Sells new for \$350.

Good description & photo is available at Universal Radio's site  
<http://www.universal-radio.com/catalog/portable/0841.html>

Please email direct, NOT to list.

Here's a quote from the 1996 Passport to Worldband Radio, p 107.

Bottom Line: Our panelists, like opinionated Supreme Court justices, usually issue split decisions. But not with this model, which since its introduction has always been, and very much still is, our unanimous favorite among portables. Incredibly, after all these years, this radio is still the Big Enchilada for radiophiles, and fairly priced for all it does so well. Except for pedestrian audio quality and urban FM, plus the learning curve, Sony's high-tech offering remains, for many, the best performing travel-weight portable-regardless of where you live. Its use of separate pushbuttons for each station preset makes station call-up easier than with virtually any other radio tested. Its synchronous detection, which works as it should, not only reduces distortion but also, as one reader puts it, offers the adjacent-channel rejection (selectivity) of a narrow filter with the fidelity of a wide filter.

-----

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:31:38 -0600  
From: Larry East <w1hue@amsat.org>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18586] 9M0C QSL, Anyone?  
Message-ID: <3.0.3.32.19980827113138.0095e7b0@axp1>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Not exactly QRP, but I'm wondering if anyone has received a QSL from the 9M0C Spratly Island operation. Seems like it has been a long time since I sent cards to the manager with IRCs enclosed...

BTW -- We had an awesome auroral display here in Idaho last night! Couldn't check to see what it was doing to the bands since my shack is still in disarray from being flooded as the result of a broken lawn sprinkler valve... :-(

72, Larry W1HUE/7

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 13:26:01 -0400  
From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>  
To: <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18587] Re: SG2020 mods under warranty  
Message-ID: <199808271740.NAA18608@gold.muskoka.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bill. your evaluation was most impressive and left sgc no choice. they are not stupid and i am sure want to have service and quality all around. sometimes its just communication and that were you shone. I remember an old salesman saying ina meeting once: "if all else fails, go and SEE the customer. bye. Armin

-----  
> From: Bill Schiller <schiller@cherokee.nsuok.edu>  
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
> Subject: SG2020 mods under warranty  
> Date: Thursday, August 27, 1998 12:43  
>  
> First I want to say that I have NO affiliation with SGC. Now I will say  
> that after my initial post comparing my 2020 with my QRP++, which was not

> very favorable toward the 2020,SGC contacted me and asked me to return  
> the radio for an inspection and possible repairs. I did this and in two  
> weeks it was returned with the new software upgrade,an "anti- popping"  
> modification and a complete recalibration.Now there is no chirp and the  
> receiver does seem to be a bit better[qualitative analysis only]in the  
> presence of strong signals.There was no charge for any of this and they  
> initiated the contact.I was impressed by this! Last weekend the rig  
> locked -up on me but was ok again after turning it off then back on[I  
> suspect a transient or some stray RF]I called them about this and a  
> service rep.discussed it with me and made a note of this on my service  
> file in case it becomes a problem in the future and after the warranty  
> runs out.I do not have the extended warranty!  
>  
> I'm not defending SGC, but they did OK for me. It's not perfect,but I  
> like the rig.As for the software upgrade maybe something can be  
> worked-out to everyone's satisfaction by talking with them before  
> reporting them to the FTC.  
> 72's  
> Bill KJ5CI  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 13:35:56 EDT  
From: MNHopkins@aol.com  
To: armin@muskoka.com, QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU  
Cc: BASWAPLIST@foothill.net  
Subject: [18588] Sales: COL is SOP; beware Collinsizing  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Armin, (who laments the cash-up-front custom in mailorder hamsales)

You are fighting what lawyers call "customary practice in the industry."  
It is almost always cash on the line. I broker estates and large items from  
time to time and get much the same terms as your seller asked. Don't know why  
it developed that way, but is surely the standard operating procedure.

When I sell, I offer just this guarantee: Money refunded on return of item  
within 10 days if and only if I have misrepresented it. Any other standard  
will get you Collinsized to death. "Collinsizing" is the practice of buying  
something by mail, calling up and saying it not as represented and asking for  
an "adjustment." This cheap post bargain bargaining technique seems to have  
entered our ranks from the Collins folk, perhaps because the prices they pay  
can cause substantial buyer remorse. My guanantee makes them put up or shut

up.

73 de ab5L, michael in dallas, student of Tecraft and International Crystal (ICM) ham products and mementoes of Six Meters' Golden Age: 1957-58

Michael Hopkins

Box 226841

Dallas, TX 75222 MNHopkins@AOL.com

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:58:00 -0700  
From: Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>  
To: jwodell@ameritech.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18589] Re: Using big rigs on qrp  
Message-ID: <35E59E28.5C50B806@ix.netcom.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jerry W. O'Dell wrote:

>

> What's the feeling about using, say, and IC706 on qrp power?

> So I'm going to use my 706, which even has a good receiver.

FWIW, 5 watts is 5 watts, whether it comes from a rig designed strictly for QRP or from an 200-watt rig with the power turned down. Interestingly, top-of-the-line rigs, such as the FT-1000D, FT-1000MP and the Omni VI+ which normally put out 100-200 watts, all have the capability to reach QRP levels.

The biggest drawbacks, if you intend to operate portable, are size, weight, and power consumption. Most, even the IC-706, will consume a couple of amps even in receive mode.

The primary advantage is the ability to take advantage of built-in features of the QRO rigs, such as DSP, dual VFO and full-band coverage. However, many of the QRP rigs have really sharp receivers, such as the Sierra.

The last time I was involved in this discussion, a friend suggested that using QRO rigs at QRP levels "...defeated the minimalist philosophy of QRP."

To each his own.

For my purposes, I plan to have both QRO and QRP operating positions in the shack. For QRO, I have an IC-706, a Ten-Tec Triton IV digital, my original Drake R-4/T-4X twins from 1966, an SB-220 amplifier, and I plan to add an Omni VI+ and an IC-761 that I'm buying from a friend. For QRP, I have the Sierra, Ten-Tec Argo 556, Ten-Tec Argonaut 515 and a QRP+.

72 de Jim - AD6CW

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 12:27:13 -0600  
From: "Hulbert, Nick" <nick.hulbert@lmco.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, Armin Hachmer <armin@muskoka.com>  
Subject: [18590] RE: Lost in the 'woulds'  
Message-ID: <5104C9F8B0B5D1118C250000F8062537BE492F@emss02m13.ems.lmco.com>  
Content-return: allowed  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"

Hello Armin,

I have read several postings with regards to the various QRP rigs and which ones are good, better, best. I think your approach is the most sound. Decide what you want in a rig for your specific application and build it, buy it, or both!! If you have a nice HF rig at home and it can be reduced in power to 5W or less then use it from home. The 2A receive current won't matter if its plugged into the wall and you'll have a lot of fun with QRP at essentially no additional cost. Great way to "try out" QRP before getting too far down the road, not to mention the triple and quadruple conversion receivers some of these rigs have. You'll also hear more than you can work, but then that's true with my Sierra as well.

Now once you decide that you want a rig for the "FIELD" and that you'll be battery powered, you have now entered a different QRP door. How many bands, which dictates what kind of portable antenna(s), and how long should the battery last in some environment...say similar to Field Day duration, will place you into the mode of which rig is best for the field. The "FIELD" also has its categories as well, i.e., car camping, backpacking, etc. Oh yes, don't forget to include whether you like to build your own gear or not,

a big QRP draw for many!!

Finally Armin, once you've decided on two or three possible rigs that match your needs, use the QRP-L to find folks who have those rigs and get their opinions. Many of the members here on the QRP-L list their rigs at the bottom of their signature block. Ask specific questions about the rig of interest. Blanket questions like "How do you like your rig?" will often get a reply, "It's great!!", probably not the answer you're looking for. I think you'll find a wealth of information available here if you ask specific questions. Before you know it you'll be out of the "woulds". Hi Hi

Nick KG5N

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:37:54 PDT  
From: "Greg Breeden" <al0a@hotmail.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18591] Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
Message-ID: <19980827183754.10478.qmail@hotmail.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain

Hi:

I saw the Lights here in Southern Indiana (38.5 deg S). I lived in Alaska a couple years and last night I thought I was dreaming. We had a thin crescent of a moon here but the band of light shined enough to be seen despite it. It wasn't Alaska, but it was sure awesome for Indiana! It was good to watch them w/o a down jacket! :)

Greg Breeden AL0A  
West Baden, IN

>Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:27:16 -0600 (MDT)  
>Reply-To: marion@montana.com  
>From: marion@montana.com  
>To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
>Subject: Re: Strange lights in der sky!  
>  
>

-----  
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-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 12:44:12 -0600  
From: Larry East <w1hue@amsat.org>  
To: "dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)"@nss4.cc.Lehigh.EDU  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18592] QRP++ For sale?  
Message-ID: <3.0.3.32.19980827124412.0095c9a0@axp1>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hay Dave -- I see that you have the QRP++ that I put all the mods in for sale! Tellya what: Advertise the fact that it has my "famous" mods, ask an additional \$100 for it, and split the difference with me. OK? :-)

72, Larry W1HUE/7

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 13:55:56 EDT  
From: n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18593] Gel Cells\Batteries  
Message-ID: <19980827.175328.7847.8.n4so@juno.com>

The saved text file here is Gelcells.txt.  
For info on Gel Cells.

Ken  
N4SO@juno.com  
Mobile, AL "Merci bien et toutes mes amities."

-----  
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-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:03:53 -0700  
From: dave\_epps@juno.com  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [18594] laser-pointer/key TKS  
Message-ID: <19980827.101758.6678.0.dave\_epps@juno.com>

Thanks to all responded. I will give it a try. If I can't get it to key good enough  
I can always build a little shutter in front on it and really bring back the old  
Navy days memories.  
Harbor Freight has a Hi-Output Laser pointer #36534 on sale for \$12.49.  
          tk's agn dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

---

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 13:55:59 EDT  
From: n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18595] Bubba Sprint Rules/Heat Index  
Message-ID: <19980827.175329.7847.13.n4so@juno.com>

Bubba text file.  
This version has the Heat Index columns lining up correctly. The version from W3Gate@gmd.de has the columns off-centered and unreadable/unusable.

Ask for bubba.txt.

Ken  
N4SO@juno.com  
Mobile, AL "Merci bien et toutes mes amities."

---

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 14:50:13 -0400  
From: "Tim Hynde" <hynde@flash.net>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [18596] re:How Do You Call it QRP  
Message-ID: <199808271850.NAA28416@endeavor.flash.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----  
> From: k5zty@juno.com  
  
> If in a contest, you make a contact off of the back of  
> your beam, do you get to claim the <1 watt bonus for that one?  
> I say use the best antenna that you can possibly put up.  
> No need to play a good sound system through a 4" Radio Shack speaker, or  
> play my 5 watt super fine OHR400 through a wet noodle antenna.  
> 72,  
> Bill, K5ZTY  
> Houston, TX

Yea I agree Bill, but it would be nifty to have a dipole or wire antenna  
only entry in some of these QRP contests, it would help those of us who  
don't decide to spend a fortune on towers and beams.

: )

Tim ka8ddz

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 12:41:00 -0400  
From: w4bws@juno.com (Donald E Sanders)  
To: angell@northernnet.com  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18597] Re: QRP troubles  
Message-ID: <19980827.132705.5718.2.w4bws@juno.com>

You need a "six pack" carrier like the old milk bottle carriers  
to carry six QRP rigs when you go to the "wilderness" in the  
back yard. My wife believed all QRPers have high grass and  
weeds because it helps propagation to get the signal out,Heeheehee.

Don W4BWS

On Wed, 26 Aug 1998 19:17:41 -0500 "V.C. Angell" <angell@northernnet.com>  
writes:

>You know the trouble with QRP? I keep losing the rigs -- they are too  
>small. They look like a have dozen other old circuit boards around  
>here.

>72,  
>"VC" KCOEM  
>  
>V.C. Angell  
><http://www.jewelry-magick.com>  
>Jewelry with a secret  
>  
>  
>  
>

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 10:16:53 -0700  
From: dave\_epps@juno.com  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18598] Key alternatives  
Message-ID: <19980827.101758.6678.1.dave\_epps@juno.com>

Where can I find L.B Cebik's "Son of IROESK" article?  
I plan to build 2 of his original I/R keys and use them like a mousekey.  
Looked like a fun project to me.  
On the fingertip-key I used small conduit clamps flattened out to fit on the  
thumb and finger tips. I put tape on the inside to insulate them from my  
skin. Wrapped masking tape (non-sticky side down) around the clamp  
and finger tip and then wrapped with the sticky side down and it made a  
little  
boot that fit on the tips and wouldn't stick to my thumb and fingers. I  
plan to  
make smaller finger contacts. This has worked better than I expected.  
It does take a little practice though.  
dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

---

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 12:53:01 -0700  
From: "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>  
To: <w1hue@amsat.org>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [18599] Re: 9M0C QSL, Anyone?  
Message-ID: <04c601bdd1f4\$4eb8ef10\$140a0a0a@double\_trouble.reliablemeters.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Larry --

Yes, I recently received my QSLs from 9M0C -- and the QSL manager was nice enough to clearly mark them "K1MG/QRP" !!!

Mike K1MG

>Not exactly QRP, but I'm wondering if anyone has received a QSL from the  
>9M0C ...

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:49:14 -0700  
From: dave\_epps@juno.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18600] laser-pointer/key  
Message-ID: <19980827.114915.6678.2.dave\_epps@juno.com>

It didn't work. Could use it on real slow code.  
        dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

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-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 16:24:00 EDT  
From: MNHopkins@aol.com  
To: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18601] QRPd to unseat Cabal of '80?  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I wonder if I should preserve the e-mail in which KA8DDZ suggests a dipole antenna only category for those who don't want, or cannot, spend Collins type money on a QRP station?

I am haunted by the notion that he may be starting something. Perhaps it will be like the bunch who, in 1980, stole the QRP-ARCI from the under 100W reformers and took it private? They were bragging about that at Dayton. In 2016 will the banquet speaker make fun of "the tower crowd" of hopelessly outdate oldtimers who used to run things from the towering heights of RG-25? Will they then speak righteously of how QRP "officially" means 5W INTO A DIPOLE ?

73 de ab5L, michael in dallas, student of Tecraft and International Crystal (ICM) ham products and mementoes of Six Meters' Golden Age: 1957-58  
Michael Hopkins  
Box 226841  
Dallas, TX 75222 MNHopkins@AOL.com

-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 15:28:08 -0500  
From: nilsbull@juno.com (Nils R Young)  
To: aweiss@usd.edu  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18602] Re: QRP, Running Dogs, Pogo  
Message-ID: <19980827.152815.8942.0.nilsbull@juno.com>

Yo! Puddin' slurpers!

Ade's got it right in saying "The point is that QRP is about limiting the amount of power that one feeds to the antenna. Knowledge and skill then take over. Both are directed at the primary objective -- putting out the best signal possible, given the power limitation, and making it work. KNOWLEDGE 101, first point on first day of class = spherical dissemination loss can be overcome partially by focusing the radiation from the antenna in a selected direction/angle etc. "

Which is what makes those kinda questions ("If yer inta QRP, how comes yer usin' sitch a fancy antenna, huh?") all the more galling. Knowledge 101/Ignorance 202. It's hard to fight that balance.

If I were like some people I know (as in the guy quoted on my web page), I'd just give those kinda questions the answer they deserve. What Burroughs used to call the "cold, dead, fish-eyed stare." Then walk away.

73

Nils

. . . who, in addition to not being a prime number, still hasn't capped off the tower upon which he had plans of putting back up his home-made, non-spheroidal radiation whatchamacallit . . .

-----  
Nils R. Bull Young

La Estancia de los Guajolotes Sonrientes :: The Grinnin' Turkey Ranch  
WB8IJN &c :: The Tagalong Press :: email to: nilsbull@juno.com  
<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Olympus/9172>

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-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 15:15:03 -0600  
From: jaywa5whn@juno.com  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18603] Y2K & qrp & millenium fever  
Message-ID: <19980827.151507.10182.6.jaywa5whn@juno.com>

Wayne Burdick had posted a very interesting thread, about the Y2K issues. Most qrpers, who I know personally, are self sufficient.

Remember, we are in a world wide economy now. The former USSR does not really care if their systems are Y2K certified or not. Their economy is already down, and yes it will eventually impact the rest of the world economies. There are other issues out there much worse than Y2K, like a revolution in the former USSR.

Canada supplies over 30% of the power to the NE USA. Is the Canadian Power Grid Y2K compliant? The SW USA has the capacity to generate over 300+ % of power requirements for NM & AZ, yet, every bit of that surplus heads west {California, NW USA}. It will be winter time in the northern hemisphere Dec. 31, 1999, let's say the power does drop off the grid,

most people would not notice it until the following morning. 1999 will be a banner year, if you are in the emergency preparation business. Heck, I now have to wait 45 days for delivery of MREs to the house, minus the heaters {The Feds are afraid that we will make bombs out of the heaters. Maybe we should send some of the Feds back to high school}.

Does anyone remember the power black out in NYC in the '60's? If I remember correctly, there was a baby boom 9 months later. Ah, those New Yorkers sure know how to handle a power black out.

Can ham radio handle the load? No, it would be absolutely staggering. If you remember the Loma Prieta earthquake, all available bandwidth capacity, outside of our area code {505} was gone. We could not dial outside of New Mexico, in some cases, not even outside our local calling area, within the area code, in NM. 2 major snow storms had clobbered NE Canada & NE USA last year & this had killed most of the excess bandwidth {telco}. I had received numerous "All circuits are busy, in area code 508". That sudden "thud" you hear is the internet bandwidth dropping off line. How long did it take to restore power to NE Canada?

During the Loma Prieta earthquake, the ham radio packet circuits were saturated. I remember hearing a California station every 10KHz on 20 meters SSB handling H & W messages only within their local calling area. They could not dial outside their local area either.

I have a 10 watt solar panel that I can roll up & place into my back pack. Would I be off the air? No, in fact, I am very lucky, those of us who live in the SW USA have an abundance of solar days. Days when the sun is out {350+ days/year}. What we lack is drinking water {high altitude desert}. We also have the highest incidence of skin cancer too. Most all of our Cities depend on electric pumps for their water distribution. How many of you have a portable water purification kit?

911 circuits will become unavailable due to people who will panic. History teaches us that a certain number of people will always panic, look at what had happened during the broadcast of "The War of the Worlds" on the radio. Read the history books, about what had happened during the beginning of the last millenium.

Should everyone run out and stock up on food & water? IMHO, don't panic, but the basic necessities should be in storage. Look at what is currently happening along the shore in North Carolina. For almost 4 months out of the year, the SE part of the USA is always preparing for a hurricane. This is a normal way of life for that part of the country.

Y2K will be a world wide event, with CNN coverage. Our parents and grand parents had suffered much worse {WWII & The Depression}. Granted, there are more people in the urban areas now, yes there will be people who will



panic, and the "Chicken Little" reports will prevail in the news media & in the newsgroups. Don't panic.

How many people have a self contained soldering iron? {butane or 12VDC}

The lights in my home are battery backed up. I have a 30 watt solar panel on the roof, with a current regulator, to power the ham radio gear. BTW, I have a wind turbine on order. Does anyone remember the old wind mills? After the Riley, NM '96 NorCal QRPTTF, I was convinced that a wind turbine would be a wonderful item to have.

There is a very high probability that the IRS will go off line. {Wahoo !! Yippee !!}

As they say in the Boy Scouts "Always be prepared."

Does anyone want a schedule with a New Mexico QRPer on Jan. 1, 2000 @ 0701 UTC?

72...Jay,

WA5WHN DM65qd AlbuQRPque, NM USA

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-----  
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 16:47:39 -0500 (CDT)  
From: jdenison@morelr.com (JOEL DENISON)  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18604] W/R ant falling update  
Message-ID: <199808272147.QAA03871@ns1.morelr.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

High gang:

Well shucks my tree was too short to put up more than the this &

that away yagi for twenty...

I see the band is dead now... what timing!!!

anyhow, I done it different this time...

I strung three ropes... one on top to hold the top ends of the yagi  
one in the middle to hold the elements spaced  
one at the bottom to put some tension on the elements

man sure wish I had some money so I could have a beam like those rich gro  
guys... mine won't rotate...

joel, in maine, rotateing things on the kitchen table.... :-)

WA5CVM

Joel Denison

PO BOX 542

3-element Wire/Rope This & That away yagi for 20mtrs

Strong, Maine 04983

Gentle Lady R C sailplane

jdenison@morelr.com

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 15:07:47 -0700 (PDT)

From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [18605] Re: QRPd to unseat Cabal of '80?

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.96.980827142807.26886B-1000000@vortex>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

>

> Perhaps it

> will be like the bunch who, in 1980, stole the QRP-ARCI from the under 100W

> reformers and took it private?

No, the 100 watt gang was off base all along. Even in 1953 when I got my  
license, QRP was 5 watts. It was 5 watts input back then because not  
many people could measure output power!

But there had always been (and still is) those who think 100 watts is  
QRP.

All that happened to the ARCI is that the 5 watt crowd was able to get  
their way! What it really meant is that most people thought 5 watts  
was QRP and not 100 watts.

> They were bragging about that at Dayton.

I didn't see it as bragging but it is something that could well

be bragged about!

> In  
> 2016 will the banquet speaker make fun of "the tower crowd" of hopelessly  
> outdate oldtimers who used to run things from the towering heights of RG-25?  
> Will they then speak righteously of how QRP "officially" means 5W INTO A  
> DIPOLE ?

Ah, but now you are conunterdicting (SP?) your self. A dipole has gain!  
How much gain can you have and be "pure"?

What about the guy who lives on a salt water marsh? How do you slap  
his hands?

And what are you going to hang the dipole from? Can you use towers?  
Must it be on the ground? Trees?

How about the guy who has trees taller than you?

There are contests with classes for different types of antennas.  
Washington State has a crooked stick contest that demands that  
you have a crooked stick as one antenna support!

There is a single tri bander on 20m and up with single wires  
on 40m and down in one of the major contests.

There are lots of classes and room for more. All you need to  
do is get the person who has to score it to agree to doing  
more work for you. Worth a try.

You just have to realize that the "...minimalist philosophy  
of QRP" is only one part of one part of the hobby.

To carry it to the other extreme, no one could have ANYTHING  
better than the least equiped station! While I realize that  
we are seeing a lot of this in our schools and elsewhere, it  
just doesn't work!

There will be people who go to a lot of time, trouble and  
expense to reduce losses in their antenna system. Is that  
fair? Should everyone have to use the same brand of feed  
line? Fittings?

People who want to do the most they can with a limited amount  
of power will always have better antennas. Those who want to  
restrict themselves to other types of antennas will do that.

The point is that there is nothing wrong with either one!

And who really cares what happens to a club? If it changes what it stands for, those who agree will stay and those who don't will leave.

Just not a big deal.

But you have pointed to the ARCI as the example. OK, if you really believe something should be changed with the ARCI, why haven't you thrown your hat into the ring for BoD? Remember that the last time NO ONE even carried enough to run!

Or start a club that excludes everyone that doesn't agree with you!

But with any "large" club, and the ARCI, NorCal and G-QRP all fit the large category here, there will be lots of different opinions. And there should be room for all.

I just don't think it's right to get all high and mighty about any one way being the only "right" way!

Remember Joe's saying, "if it ain't fun you ain't doing it right" and relax!

I envy those who have 5 over 5 over 5 over 5 on 20m and I know that I can't put out a better sig than they do, but I still give them a run for their money to the best of my ability!

I also know that I will never be able to afford a tower system like that. But I don't think it's wrong for someone else to have it. I also can't afford airplanes and Caddies!

And now and then I'll get lucky and beat one!

5w is 5w. Gee, maybe those who are talking to someone who is east of them should be required to keep their RF from polluting us that are to the west of them!

Yea, that's what it is..... less RF pollution by "aiming" your RF in the right direction..... stop all this unnecessary QRM...

I think it's high time the ARRL demands the FCC to make all stations have directional antennas to reduce unwanted radiation! Yea, that's the ticket....

: -)

73, Ron, SOWP 5545M,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 15:49:29 EDT  
From: fcsww@juno.com (dick rood)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18606] Alternate alternates...  
Message-ID: <19980827.154925.4855.0.fcsww@juno.com>

Take your alternate big old rig and turn it down to 5 watts...  
Hook it up to an alternate plain old wire antenna...  
Set aside those alternate keyers n' bugs...  
Turn on the SSB...  
Pick up the dusted off microphone...  
Now just pucker up and blow...

dick, w2scf, qrp-1 no. 1613

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 11:19:39 EDT  
From: n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [18607] QST Search Program  
Message-ID: <19980827.151712.7767.8.n4so@juno.com>

#### QST Index Search

Available from the ARRL BBS is a program called qstsearc.zip which is a QST Index Search program which will search the annual indexes of QST mag starting from 1977 - 1996. You would use a Keyword like "dipole" and it will find every article with the word dipole that shows up. This is a zipped program and will require PKunzip to unzip the files.

ARRL BBS 1 860-594-0306.

Updates are available from the author.

Ken

N4SO@juno.com

Mobile, AL "Merci bien et toutes mes amities."

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Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 15:31:12 -0700

From: Allan Taylor K7GT <k7gt@qsl.net>

To: n4so@juno.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [18608] Re: QST Search Program

Message-ID: <35E5DE30.1848@qsl.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

There are sometimes articles from before 1977 that can be useful. A QRP-L member, AE0Q, has an index on his web page from 1972 to 1997. I am preparing an edited index of my personal QST collection (complete from 1945 - present with 3 issues missing). Unfortunately I am only through mid-52 at the present! (Work keeps getting in the way!) It skips alot of the dated crud that shows up in most indices. QRP, antennas, receiver design, QSK, ham radio history, etc., will survive the editing process, however.

I also have made my collection available through copies in trade for stamps or for QRP-L trade futures. I am glad to help. I also have a complete set of QRPp and a nearly complete set of QEX.

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73 de K7GT

Allan Taylor (a.k.a. Grant)

Pleasanton CA

email: k7gt@qsl.net

web page: <http://www.qsl.net/k7gt/index.html>

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End of QRP-L Digest 1196

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